

BEING GRAYDON CARTER

SPIES IN THE SKIES

MAGLEAN'S

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 20 2004



TV

Paul Gross
s PM, Hawaii
s hot, sitcoms
are not

MOVIES

Toronto's film
fest—Penélope
Cruz, Sean Penn,
Neve Campbell,
Dustin Hoffman

MUSIC

Sum 41 tells
all, plus
U2, Shania,
Eminem

BOOKS

Alice Munro,
Wayson Choy,
Margaret
Atwood



Plays, games
and more

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AIMING HIGH Canada's 144-member team gets set to take on the world in Athens.



RAIN, REPUBLICAN-STYLE

No matter who gets wet, Bush and company are somehow never to blame

I HAD AN ARGUMENT with one of our cat last week that I never had a chance of winning. It was morning, and, as usual, Gracie wanted to go outside—until I opened the door and she discovered it was pouring rain. She glared, turned tail and flounced off, only to return several minutes later, insisting again on her right to go out and she discovered again that it was raining. Three times the offhand me the chance to make it stay raining, and

three times I failed her. She finally went back to bed, making clear with her grumbling that she knew I was to blame.

I wrote Gracie's bluff behavior off to the fact that, well, she's a cat—and young and Stomach so that. But there's a more disturbing possibility she may be a Irish Republican. If so, it means that in her view, no dog, bad, just, present or future, will ever be her fault; someone else will always be to blame, and she will always talk louder and know better and mean about everything, so the point that we'll never get her to listen. Her logic over the weather isn't much different than that practiced by Vice President Dick Cheney, who last week suggested that if the Democrats win the next election, the result may be assaults in America similar to that horrific attack on schoolchildren in Russia (page 16). Republicans take no responsibility for the events of Sept. 11, 2001, but they're quick to assign responsibility elsewhere for disasters that haven't happened. And, of course, that also means that anyone evil and stupid enough to vote for the Democrats is equally guilty.

Measured against that, Gracie seems positively reasonable. But then, there's a natural quality to the American presidential campaign it's baffling when seen from outside the country. How to explain a campaign in which Bush, who never saw combat and who ducked out of the National Guard and highly glibly commiserates circumstances, gets to pose as a gallant and patriotic decorated war veteran opponent as a wuss? Or for Bush to declare that America is a "safe place" because of the removal of Saddam Hussein from power on the same week that the 1,000th American died in Iraq was the beginning of that operation. But the really mind-boggling thing is that it

There's a surreal quality to the presidential campaign: it's baffling when seen from outside the country

avoids the Republicans lead the polls and were headed for re-election. Kerry's promise to avoid personal attacks in response sounds noble, but a political insider it's like tying one hand behind your back while trying to box with an opponent who kicks, scratches and bites.

Even as Bush/Cheney lead in the U.S., a survey last week showed that of 34,000 adults in 35 countries outside the States, Kerry is favored by a two-to-one margin overall, and by a majority in 30 of those countries (including Canada). As Canadian-born Graydon Carter (editor of *Mosley's*) writes in our new book *What We're Lacking* (George W. Bush is the first since around may be seen by the rest of the world as an aberration, a mistake. His re-election would send a message of hostile intent to the rest of the world." Carter expands on that point in our *Maclean's* Interview (page 15). He makes wrong one—but he did it to Gracie, and a only added to her disdain. Still, say this for us, including Gracie: they're always wrong, which implies at least some interest in the thoughts and interests of others. That's more than you can say for the Bush Republicans.

Anthony Wilson-Smith

antonysmith@maclean.ca to comment on The Editor's Letter

MACLEAN'S
FRONT & BACK

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Suddenly the idea of email on a cell phone seems obvious.



Treo 600

Push one button on the Treo 600 smartphone by palmOne and it happens. Suddenly you're on email* - sending, replying, communicating. All with an integrated, easy to use QWERTY keyboard. No complex key punching or endless text scrolling. No booting up or waiting for applications to launch. Just updated email, ready when you are, right out of the box.* The Treo 600 is also a full featured mobile phone, a Palm Powered organizer and a digital camera. It lets you text message and browse the Web.* And yes, it really is small enough to slip in your pocket. For details, visit us at www.palmOne.com/treo600 or visit your local wireless service provider. Finally, a smartphone that really is smart.



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"I am proud that our athletes have reached for their best despite insufficient government support and a lack of visibility in the media." —*Gareth Jewellery, Vancouver*

The Midas touch

I was heartily sick at hearing about how we must make gold medals and how we must achieve to get them at the next Games ("Lure strong the bar," *Adams '04*, Sept. 4). Four is money, if you will, but poor fit into the whole athletic infrastructure and culture of the nation. Promote healthier lifestyles through sport, spend the money on everyone and have faith that this will give us more medals. If we believe that a more athletic Canada, the savings in health care will finance Olympic training.

Doreen Mungkin, Peter River, N.S.

Other nations spend big amounts of money to have "super" athletes, but I don't think that is something Canada should consider. Sure, it would look good if we got lots of medals, but so too that is a luxury we just can't afford.

Michel Hénin, Ottawa

If athletes were money from the government, it should be provided, not as a hand-out but rather as money to invest. Students could do it to realize their goals, and a number system could work for athletes. I would expect the government revenue spent on athletes to be used to support the health care and relief for the homeless.

Alan Muelke, Mill River, P.E.I.

As a proud Canadian living in Australia, I watched Aussie athletes win medal after medal. The performances brought the whole nation together. In a country where our national identity is constantly up for debate, wouldn't better funding for athletes and creating a national institution of sport be a relatively cheap means of building exercise? Australia is the perfect example of what a small country can do on the world stage without planning and preparation. If we follow an example, Canada will become stronger and more unified.

Mary Lyle, Melbourne, Australia

I'm probably one of the few people in this country that is happy with our medal total



I think it's unrealistic to expect a country with three months to train to surpass the Aussies, which has summer all year long. Did the Australian media complain that they won only two medals at the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City?

James Hesse, Edmonton

After listening to endless pro-Olympic wrap-ups, it appears what Sport Canada needs are more vacancies. Of Canada's three gold medals, only one was mentioned in your Aug. 16 Olympics cover package. When the chips were down, the Canadians who won gold were the ones not considered. If the experts can't recognize their talents, we shouldn't be surprised at the

Gold standard: Is the struggle for Olympic medals worth the cost?

Readers quickly joined in the post-Olympic re-evaluations, with most taking a positive view. Mike Thompson of Coquitlam, B.C., said he "wished to show that Canada did quite well, and so." "The U.S. won 113 medals with 113 States now joined in." When Canada's 12 medals are multiplied by 16, it comes to 180. That's pretty good. Congratulations to all our Olympians!"

and medal counts. Until we can find the diamonds in the rough, we can't help them. Thank you to Lani Ann Marzani, Kyle Shewell, and Adam van Kesteren.

Chris Kennedy, Los Chaveros, Calif.

"Persons best" seems to have become the favourite phrase of Canadian athletes. If Canada is sending them to the Olympics, I think we should expect more than personal bests. Most Canadians simply do not have the winning mindset that gold medalists have (see page).

Sandra Miller, Lethbridge, Alta.

Why are so many Canadians pretending that the medal count doesn't matter? Could these be the same people who for the past 20 years have been teaching our children that competition isn't good if there are no winners or losers? They would have to believe that these young athletes train for four years and travel halfway around the world just to play the game. Think. Every child is good at something—if we teach them that winning matters, each will focus on his strengths. Our athletes will perform accordingly.

David Squares, Seattle, Alta.

Olympic success is an individual accomplishment. When government entities begin making credit for their athletes' success, the results will be in. The mingled and correct habit of counting a country's medals—as though the whole nation is competing—must stop.

Ray Anderson, Whistler, British Columbia

I read about Penélope Fitzgerald, then cried when I heard what happened to her in Athens. We bask in athletes' reflected glory when they win, but we should be proud of their determination and love for their country even if they don't. She and the basketball team, especially, have contributed much to the spirit of Canadian athletes, despite the down times.

Kathleen Crawford-Pittsford, Markham, Ont.

Thanks for your coverage of the Athens Olympics—let's not stop writing about winter athletes just because the Games are over. Ian Hunt, Toronto.

Presidential woes

Thank you for Bob Levin's concise summary of the George W. Bush presidency

("Bush's really bad year," *The Back Page*, Aug. 30). It continues to baffle me that at least half of the American voters still seem to think that the President is doing just fine. Are they in denial, or what? Yet the Democratic can't seem to capitalize on the situation in spite of all of Bush's failings. I'm afraid John Kerry is going to blow his chances of winning by, among other things, failing to differentiate his policy wish-list from that of Bush.

Dan Gifford, Vancouver

I can only hope and pray that many people read articles such as Bob Levin's and realize the right decision. I have never before been concerned with the outcome of an American election; however, this one is troubling me considerably. It will be a great blow to world peace, the environment and efforts to ensure credibility in the business world if this madman, George W. Bush, is elected again.

Gail Bennett, Toronto

What irony tower is Andrew Potter writing from ("Give Gogby a hand—get violence," *Essay*, Aug. 16)? He makes it sound as though most of the protesters in New York City for the Republican convention were non-violent, also volunteering their skills, inspired only to incite riots and incite violence to the locals. His writing, Potter's "value journalism" is not professional journalism, but ordinary citizens who have simply had enough and aren't content to wait for election day to make their feelings known.

Sabrina Reiter, Calgary, Ont.

Twinned identities

Our identical twins were born in 1963 ("Twin's identities," *Home*, Aug. 30). They followed the pattern of nearly identical abilities and talents in school. They met their wives in the same year, bought houses in the same year and had their first children separated by only five months. They looked identical that their little children (who now range in age from two to five) sometimes can't tell which is daddy. Our account was to the Jan for Laugh twins parade two years ago, but other than that they have been content to lead their "double" life without fanfare—but with a great deal of enjoyment.

Susan Jackson, Hastings, Ont.



If one can't risk high schools, asks a reader, then why call the issue "Canada's best schools?"

School debates

Your recent article about public high schools ("Canada's best schools," *Cover*, Aug. 23) presents an array of findings about a number of truly wonderful schools and highly creative programs in a variety of Canadian communities. Your writer points out, quite rightly, that there is no one common scale of excellence by which to measure schools. It is therefore unfortunate that the title, "Canada's best schools," so badly misrepresents the content of the article.

Patrick Hinch, Surrey, B.C.

Number of schools cited in your "Canada's best schools" issue 37. Number of them that were in Quebec: one. And it was in English: one. I don't want to get all political about it, but as a Quebec francophone, I feel that at

least one of our schools should have made it onto your list.

Bernie Howard, Montreal

If I wanted to tell you that I really enjoyed your schools article, especially the profile of the Fraser school for program and planning, then I really could say

there's a community far people who have made one bad decision but really want to move on. No matter how old you are, I don't think that just because you have a bad you should stop living life to the fullest.

Angy Kallio, Toronto

Policing risk

At the end of your article on police use of "leaves" ("When your gun goes bad," *Editorial*, Aug. 23), you ask "When is it worth the risk?" Yes, governments must conduct safety tests on new products, but the public must realize that there are no other options to deadly force now other than to discharge with the subject. Don't forget that the police officer may be putting himself in life-threatening danger when he confronts a suspect. As well, the officer may be subject to internal investigation and to being both criminally and civilly liable for use of force decisions. Is it worth the risk?

Kelly Bailey, Montreal, Ont.

Although your story on Tiger stars gave appeared to take a critical direction, the math counts of it all seem simple to me. Tiger death rate, one in 1,000, gun death rate, about one in two. If by some unfortunate occurrence a friend of mine should ever find himself spinning out of control, odds, my plea to law enforcement is use the Tiger.

Craig Wright, Winnipeg

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MACLEAN'S BEHIND THE SCENES



IMAGES WE 'NEED TO SEE'

An Iraqi man (above) comforts his four-year-old son at a holding centre for prisoners of war near An Najaf, southern Iraq, on March 31, 2003. The boy had become terrified when, according to orders, his father was hooded and handcuffed. A U.S. soldier later severed the plastic handcuffs so that the man could soothe his child.

The photo, published in the Sept. 6, 2004, issue of Maclean's, was taken by French photographer Jean-Marc Roju of The Associated Press and has been selected as the World Press Photo of the Year by the international jury of the 47th annual World Press Photo contest. Roju's work, along with 260 other photos that reflect the drama, chaos and tragedy of 2003, will be traveling about 40 countries.

"These are images that Canadians need to see," says Andrew Tolson, Maclean's director of photography. "Though sometimes horrific, they also stand as works of art." The exhibit is currently at the Massey Centre in Montreal until Oct. 3 and will be shown at Toronto's Allan Lambert Gallery at BCI Place Oct. 4 to 23. "It's the involvement of organizations like Maclean's that allows World Press Photo to bring these images to Canada and to more than a million people globally each year," says Lesley Sparks, organizer of the Toronto exhibits.

For 12 days, the panel judged more than 63,000 entries by 4,176 photographers (18 at three Canadian) from 124 countries. The contest is one way the independent, non-profit World Press Photo, founded in the Netherlands in 1955, fights to eradicate of stereotyping and promoting professional press photographers.

Earlier this year, Maclean's was one of the sponsors of the Eastern Canadian News Photographers Association's Pictures of the Year Contest in which Maclean's chief photographer Peter Bragg won three awards, including first place in the social issues category.

Says Tolson: "Because Maclean's showcases the best in Canadian photography, it's a natural desire for us to support organizations that recognize photographic talent – nationally and internationally."

Help shape what's inside Maclean's by registering as a member of the Maclean's Advisory Panel at www.macleans.ca/qa. For further information about this article, contact behindthescenes@macleans.ca.

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ScoreCard



WALK WOUNDS Republicans ring up projected \$423-billion record deficit in the election year. In American death toll in Iraq passes 1,000. Might be time to stop blaming over-ambitious Iraqis for war, and consider costs of current conflict.



TORONTO TRASH Democratic candidate John Kerry vows to stop Ken of Toronto garbage to stop illegal landfill fires, because it's gross. Sanitary policy move shows northern political smarts: view, one of the candidates actually mentioned Canada!



PM P.R.C. Paul Martin belatedly welcomes web-cast interview in Kitchener. Followed by goodwill blitz at province by government ministers. Last initiative involves no hand grenades, no baby showers, but will it translate into more federal grants?



GREEKS Travel agents return to Athens' streets and the Shepherd Greeks, an one columnist claims his complete travel. Have shed their glazed Cityscape smiles and reclaimed the chaotic business of living. Welcome back, ladies. Thanks for the show.



Weather | Hurricane Ivan batters the Caribbean

"Let us pray for God's care," said Jamaican Prime Minister P.J. Patterson. In the end, that seemed to be all that many could do as Hurricane Ivan raged across the Caribbean. In Grenada, the storm killed at least 17 people and seriously damaged almost 90 per cent of the island's buildings. It also destroyed a 17th century prison, forcing convicts—among them politicians who had been jailed for killings committed during the 1985 left-wing coup that resulted in the U.S. suspension of the country.

Widespread looting in the wake of Dean's passing prompted other Caribbean nations to send troops to help restore order. By that

Grenada was particularly hard hit. Likewise, Jamaica's Patterson vowed on his people to pray.



time, the storm was battering down on Jamaica, which is hit on Friday. Officials in the U.S. feared Ivan would also strike the Florida Keys, where an evacuation order had already been issued. Coming so soon after Charley and Frances had swaged areas of the state only weeks apart, Ivan would be the third hurricane to hit Florida in a month—and would make the first one since 1964 that struck three states: struck the Sunshine State in the course of an annual hurricane season. And for Floridians and residents of the Caribbean islands, there was another reality to ponder: the hurricane season of 2004 is far from over.

Quote of the week "No, the puppy didn't get charged. Should've got a steak dinner." Florida police Sgt. John Bates, after a man trying to kill some puppies was shot when one of the dogs accidentally stepped on his gun's trigger.

Mansbridge on the Record



ANCHOR CONFESSIONS

TV coverage of hurricanes over the years has come to look a little farcical

NOT SURPRISINGLY, I see television as a conflict medium from which to get news. The power of pictures and the ability to marry them with compelling narrative can give TV a considerable advantage over its competitors. Some print colleagues criticize us for being "picture driven," but when's the last time you picked up a newspaper and stared at a front page without a major picture? One that often captures almost all there is to say about a story—think of the frame banner on the face of that Russian child lying the one place outside his home that his parents had nearly felt was safe.

But TV news does have limitations. In the traditional newsroom, things haven't changed much in the generation or so since Walter Cronkite described his profession as "just the headlines." I totally understand the mood, against the legendary CBC newsman, you had to go deeper—watch documentaries, listen to informed talk and, most importantly, read. Keep in mind, too, those who argue Cronkite's point is still valid today, that if you take a transcript of every word uttered on a TV newsroom and print it in the front page of a major daily, it might not fill that space, depending of course on the size of that page one picture.

While I defend TV news, I'm not one on casting about there are problems, big and small. So it may be time to blow the whistle on this small one. All media, but especially TV, lower the hurricane watch. It's a story that builds over a few days as the storm approaches, then hits with a fury, followed by the cleanup and the damage assessments.

As to fill the remainder news cycle. That's why Hurricane Frances was such a media magnet. In the days before it hit, the high-wire balancing act of Florida was joined with residents on the run, while the high-wire balancing act of Florida must have looked like a record for TV station trucks. Much of the eventual coverage, especially from local stations, was professionally done—all for the sake of people in the storm area. TV was the place to turn for up-to-the-minute developments, not the morning paper with an negotiation of what happened yesterday.

That's the upside. Now the downside. As someone who has been involved in lots of Canadian storm coverage over the years, I can tell you this: I. Besides age, when a reporter was caught on film (usually) holding on to a railing with rain lashing against his face, it was pretty dramatic stuff. Just over the years, with the explosion of news channels across the dial and the designer rain gear that has become a staple of hurricane coverage, that same has, at times, started to look a little farcical. Watching on U.S. 5, I saw the other day, a hurricane watch reporter was standing on an almost 45-degree angle, yelling about how cordless since Hurricane were to be out in such bad weather. Suddenly one of the same walked by holding a cup of coffee like he'd just paraded down the street. The reporter grabbed him and screamed, "What are you doing out here?" to which the nonplussed Hurricane, who seemed to be standing next, replied, "What are you doing out here?" broadly.

The anchor, seated in his calm studio, tried to save the moment, as anchors sometimes do, by wrapping up the segment with the often overused sounding: "We'll be back to you. We'll be back to you."

Peter Mansbridge is Chief Commentator of CBC television News and Anchor of The Record. To comment: pmansbridge@cbc.ca

FaceTime

Football justice

At a preliminary hearing, a Montreal court heard that former left, wide receiver Tommy Kane had killed his wife, Terey Shook, on Nov. 30, 2002, by brutally beating her and then slashing her throat. But Kane struck a deal, pleading guilty to manslaughter. Shook's family had hoped hard to be found guilty of murder.



Family friend and a witness advocate drew March 2003, a blunt parallel to another case involving a football player: "This year after the O.J. trial," she said, "nothing has changed."



Muzzled

During October 2003, a high-level press officer, accompanied by the stress of acting in his own defence, the US long comes forward in The Hague impact two defence lawyers on the North "explosion" of the court's defence was running the No. 3. The court's defence was running the No. 3. The court's defence was running the No. 3.



Number One

Vijay Singh headed into the weekend's Canadian Open at Glendale. On's Glen Abers Golf Course ranked as the No. 3 golfer in the world. With his three stroke victory at the Deutsche Bank Championship in the North "explosion" of the court's defence was running the No. 3. The court's defence was running the No. 3.



Thanks

Paula is good again. Light that will play two concerts in Hamilton—his first full show in more than two years.

To thank the hospital that saved his life. He spent three months at the McMaster University hospital after suffering a non-fatal heart abnormal entry. Just before a scheduled September 2003 concert in his hometown of Orillia, Ont. Proceeds from the show will go to the hospital's fundraising foundation.

WORLD

GRIM TOTAL The number of U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq surpassed 1,000—a tally Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry called a “tragic miscalculation.” The U.S. body count rose as Pentagon officials conceded rebels controlled important parts of central Iraq—and that it was unclear whether U.S. and Iraqi forces could pacify those areas.

Ruduppings continued, with the education of two young Indian women working for an aid agency in Baghdad. A group linking itself to al Qaeda disavowed responsibility, saying the women was Iraq's participation in the U.S.-led coalition.

Meanwhile, a new videotape featuring Osama bin Laden's cousin, Ayman al-Zawahiri, aired on the Arabic-language TV station al-Jazeera, just on the eve of the third anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. Al-Zawahiri said the U.S. was close to being defeated in Iraq and Afghanistan, and vowed that al-Qaida would be the U.S. again.

BOMBING An explosion outside the Australian embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia, killed nine people and injured more than 180. The al-Qaida-linked Jemaah Islamiyah, a South-east Asian terrorist organization that has also been blamed for the 2002 car bombing in a Bali nightclub, is suspected.

TRASH TALK Amid the ongoing conversations over whether war during the Vietnam War

BY THE NUMBERS

IS PRINCEMACARE THE ANSWER?

Prinematicare's plan to open a new hospital in Ontario has raised questions about the program. But on the eve of this week's federal provincial meeting, a *Financial Post* poll shows that Canadians have other ideas about how to improve health care.

What will it take to fix the system?	%
Physician reform	54
Minor funding	23
Complete rebuilding	17
Everything is fine as is	3

Top priorities	
Minor doctors	38
Reduced waiting lists	26
More diagnostic tests	12
More nurses	9
Pharmaceutical	7
A national home care program	7
Private care options	5

Would pharmacists improve the health-care system?	
Somewhat	29
Significantly	16
Not much	35
Not at all	15

SOURCE: PRINEMACARE, INC. SURVEY OF CANADIAN OPINION, 2004.

and the administration's messy conflict in Iraq, Kerry focused in on another program: U.S. discount-movie-theater garbage. Cautious in Michigan, where he's in a tight race with George W. Bush, Kerry said he'd

end the importing of waste from Ontario to that state.

No distractions for Vice-President Dick Cheney, however. Pounding home a scare-mongering message, he warned of “a series of terrorist attacks” if Kerry is elected president on Nov. 2.

STORM WROTH In northwest China, the days of torrential rains killed more than 180 people. The flooding was a major test for the controversial Three Gorges Dam, which on week's end was struggling to contain the sudden surge in its reservoir.

MIDDLE EAST In resolution for two weeks has beenings that killed 16 people on Aug. 21, Israeli helicopter gunships attacked a Hamas training camp in a soccer stadium, killing 15 and wounding more than 20.

Israel's spy satellite Orlite-1, intended to keep an eye on Iran's nuclear ambitions, crashed into the Mediterranean after the satellite that was carrying it into space mal-functioned.

STAR TRUST For three years the capsule on board NASA's Genesis spacecraft orbited the sun, collecting solar particles. But its trip back to Earth ended in disaster when a pair of parachutes failed to open and it crashed into the desert southwest of Salt Lake City. Hollywood space pilot had been hired to help get the capsule safely down, but it descended far too fast.

HEALTH

HEART PROBLEMS A study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* found that the common antibiotic erythromycin, prescribed for ailments ranging from strep throat to syphilis, can increase the risk of cardiac arrest, especially in patients taking other medication for infections and high blood pressure.

BREAST CANCER Specialists at Toronto's Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre said they have successfully used an innovative new treatment on six breast-cancer patients. In a one-hour procedure, tiny beads that release small doses of radiation over a two-month period accumulated in the breast after an early-stage tumour has been removed. The treatment, intended to prevent recurrences,

is far less debilitating than standard therapy, which can require up to seven weeks of daily radiation doses.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION Many leading medical journals say they will no longer publish results of drug companies' clinical trials that have not been publicly registered. The move is designed to keep companies from cooking results that are unfavourable.

CANADA

MOVING UP The Bank of Canada raised its interest rate to 2.25 per cent from two per cent. Further hikes are expected to help cool Canada's overheated economy.

SLURPED OUT The young humpback whale who entered the pool of Nova Scotia's Bay of Fundy generating station on Aug. 23 finally returned to the sea after the station's gates through which he had entered were opened during high tide. The whale, named Shua, had apparently been chasing a school of herring when he entered the pool, and had then staged on to coast for local and tourists.

SPONSORSHIP The inquiry headed by Justice John Gauthier into the federal sponsorship scandal got under way in Ottawa. Appearing in the first week was Auditor General Sheila Fraser, who gave details on some of the transactions she had uncovered in her damning report last February.

SPORTS TRAGEDY Students at Calgary's Bowden High School were devastated after Tyler Zee, 16, died after spending days in a stress

following an injury sustained during a football practice. Although the incident has raised questions about contact sports in schools, his family said now is not the time to assign blame.

SEARCHING The hunt for Tanya Korpene, a naive girl who disappeared from her Regina, Saskatchewan, on the night of July 5, expanded to the Massachusetts coast north of the capital. Police were disappointed about who had made them turn their lights there, but a man that was seen in Tanya's neighbourhood around

the time of her disappearance was found abandoned and buried on the stairs.

MURKED Facing a looming power shortage, Ontario's Liberal government said the province has ordered negotiations aimed at rebuilding two nuclear power plants that have been shut down for some six years.

TAKING TIMES Some 8,000 Revenue Canada workers, members of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, took to the public lanes in a dispute over wages and working conditions. Parla Canada employees are already off the job, and union spokesmen warn the strike could spread to more than 100,000 other public servants over the coming months.

DRY DOCK Luck less than three months for the plug is to be pulled on the controversial Lake Ontario ferry project linking Toronto and Rochester, N.Y. Debarge of Canadian American Transportation Systems, which ran the Bessie ferry, said it was suspending its operations indefinitely, and blamed governments on both sides of the border for its problems.

BY VANCE ROEDER



TOUGH TALK

The health administration and that the Ministry of Health by government-funded health centres against the individuals of the British region of Berlin is provided. The St. James's Park project on the international community to take steps to end the tumor that has resulted in \$6,000 in the cost of the diagnosis of 1.2 million people.

Mary Janigan | ON THE ISSUES



WORSHIPPING FALSE IDOLS

"We should be more concerned about health services than health systems"

DECADES AGO, in one of his first courses, economics professor Tom Courchane rapped the dry innards of money and banking. Every lecture he happily opined, his mind slotting like a water bug across the world's choppy economic waters. But after three months, Courchane was flummoxed. "I've taught them everything I know," he fretted. "What now?" A colleague suggested he see his students more how much they had absorbed. Very little. Chastened, Courchane learned how to display his anxiety ability to draw links among policy fields, including the arcane world of money. "I guess my focus is that I love to integrate," he says now.

These days, he is musing that nature to depict the new knowledge-based economy. And his take-no-prisoners insights offer a discerning way to judge the actions of this minority Liberal government. It sounds simple: in the nation's early years, we once relied on economic programs such as railways, during the past few decades, we devoted our resources to social goals like old-age security. Now knowledge is the key to growth. So, as Courchane, 64, observes in a recent *Policy Options* essay, "good social policy is good economic policy."

Some sort of sound policy? *Doesn't sound stupid!* It's a tough standard. By Courchane's reckoning, because "global myopia" is today's economic power, we should pour resources into better infrastructure, and all-around research labs. That runs counter to the Liberals' blind faith about economic rates—and the apparent determination to

trust every org, even the untested, equally. Because health care is gobbling funds, some of which Courchane would earmark for education or preventive health policies: child care, radical surgery in needed specialized diagnostic and treatment centers could replace many hospitals—and they could be publicly or publicly run. "Medicare has become an issue we have named the insurance to the status of a goal so it is difficult to alter," Courchane argues. "We should be more concerned about health services than health systems."

He has always been an original thinker. Born in Wales, Sask., he is the son of a French Canadian father who owned an auto dealership and a high school teacher mother. With scholarships, he got his economics doctorate from Princeton, now he teaches public policy at Queen's. He says his motto was not good enough: "to run with the big economy," but he could never have flourished in that pressure but impersonal world. Instead, he forgoes through everything from Aboriginal policy to federal transfers to the Constitution on where, as an author, doctor, or teacher, he focuses on federal intrusion onto provincial turf.

His access to collect reliable data—and interpret 10 years ahead. In the late 1990s, he noticed how much of Ontario's GDP hinged on U.S. exports. That led to an influential analysis of how the province's own steel mills are fraying as trade effectively crosses over border regions. "I spend my life out on a limb and it is barrowing," he says. "With every article, I always wonder: 'Am I so idiotic again?'" Actually, never. You may disagree with Courchane, but he is always thought-provoking. When the *Globe* brags with policy goodness, we should ask if they fit in with new knowledge-based world. And judge them accordingly.

Write Janigan at a political and policy writer: maryjanigan@maclean.ca; report card

Passages

PHOTO As the Athens Games, Canada's women team sink, and with it **Dave Johnson**. Last week, the man who had coached our swimmer for 12 years was shown the door. During Johnson's time on the job, Canada's medal count in swimming declined, from winning a silver and two bronzes in 1996 to nothing in Athens.



PHOTO Africaner cleric **Boeyens Naude** became a pain in his country because of his anti-apartheid preaching. Times change: his death last week at 89, in a Johannesburg suburb, brought a flow of tributes from across the political spectrum, including Nelson Mandela, who called him "a true humanitarian and a true son of Africa."

JUMPING SHIP As CEO of the Toronto Stock Exchange, **Barbara Stynen**, 68, oversaw its transformation into a publicly traded company. Now she's facing a new



challenge: helping the Royal Bank of Canada turn around its flagging fortunes as chief operating officer. Stynen is coming on board on Nov. 1, report of a large-scale shake-up at the bank.

RECUPERATING Bill Clinton was described as being "awake and alert" following his quadruple bypass operation in a Minnesota hospital. The 56-year-old former president did not suffer a heart attack, but after exhibiting such symptoms as chest pain and shortness of breath he was diagnosed with nearly complete blockage in several coronary arteries. At week's end Clinton left hospital for his home in Chappaqua, N.Y.

THE MACLEAN'S INTERVIEW



Media | Graydon Carter

'AFTER 9/11, THE U.S. GOT SILLIER'

OTTAWA-BORN GRAYDON CARTER, 55, is one of Canada's most famous—name and experience—writers to the American media scene. Editor of *Vanity Fair* since 1992, he has built the monthly magazine into one of the world's most successful publications. The chutzpah-making Carter is also renowned for his larger-than-life persona and friendships with many major figures in Hollywood. But with his new—and first—book, *What We're Lost*, a scathing condemnation of George W. Bush's administration, Carter gets serious.

In this book suddenly crossed my critics that you are Canadian by birth?

[Laughs] I talk about my nationality often, because I'm very proud of what the Clinton did during this period concerning Iraq, and how they handled themselves. I think they will come out on the right side.

After 9/11, your magazine ran a factoring piece on the Bush administration. When did you change?

The Bush administration behaved responsibly immediately after Sept. 11. But in my view, it started getting my goat, because there was no connection between Saddam Hussein and Sept. 11, or between him and al-Qaeda. Why take the resources necessary for a real war on terror for this discretionary war?

How often do people talk about your famous "warp is dead" comment in the wake of 9/11? I am wrong about so many things I mean, if I say bushies are going up, chances are they're going down the next day. One of the few things I've been right on was this war America got after rather than more serious after Sept. 11. If you look at what they watch on TV, at these weekly editorial magazines that may be right from the past realities of the front pages of newspapers every day, in the way scribbled comedies were a necessary during the Depression.

When you were in Canada, were you NEB, Conservative or Liberal?

I didn't vote, but if I had, I'd be Liberal.

Will you run for mayor of New York? I would have to have interest in that.

Are you aware, since you're coming to Toronto, that anti-smoking laws are probably more draconian than in New York?

New York is starting to worry me.

I don't know if you remember this old contest, but how would you finish this phrase: "As Canadian as..."

Maple syrup.

The winner was "As Canadian as possible, under the circumstances."

[Laughs] That is really funny! That is very funny. I'll have to use that.

ANTHONY WALSH SMITH



Terror | BY CHARLIE GALLS

AFTER THE HORROR

Burying the dead—and vowing revenge

WE KNEW before the footage aired how the scene ended. Hundreds of hostages, many of them children, dying amid explosions and gunfire in a crowded school gymnasium—the work, Russian authorities said, of rebel Chechen terrorists. But for knowledge in no way lessened the force of the images from School Number One in Beslan, more than 1,000 watching hostages gasping for oxygen, blood streaks where victims had been dragged from the room, children covering the floor with bombs hanging from a wire over their heads.

The footage, believed to have been shot by the captives early in a standoff that claimed at least 330 lives, has driven unprecedented attention to Russia's war with Chechen separatists—which Moscow has managed to keep largely out of the public eye. Glimpses of frightened children with their heads behind their hands, so stuffed by fear they'd ripped off their clothes, put a human face on the conflict. But desecratory expressions of sympathy (Canada sent \$100,000) briefly preceded a torrent of gross articles casting blame on the author of its own misery, noting the misadventures of Chechen exiles by Russian soldiers. And foreign ministers from three EU countries suggested Moscow needed to explain why so many died during the rescue attempt.

The battle drew renewed fury from President Vladimir Putin, who in under increasing pressure to settle the Chechen issue. In testy responses to foreign journalists, he blamed the rebel leaders to Ghazalbek Ladoev, and remained his refusal to negotiate. Instead, his security forces slapped a US\$10-million price on the heads of two Chechen rebel leaders, while his top military commander warned of put-empire attacks on terrorist bases in other countries. In a reinsurance that sounded a lot like a threat, Col. Gen. Yuriy Izraelov said: "This does not mean that we will deliver nuclear strikes."

But Putin's anger almost identical three years ago, after 130 people were killed in a Moscow theater by Chechens. Since then, there have been numerous attacks attributed to Chechen terrorists, including the bombings of two Russian passenger planes two weeks ago. Now there are also growing fears that the Beslan attack will unleash factional violence in the northern Caucasus, a region already riven with tension before the war in nearby Chechnya.

Some angry residents of Ossetia, where Beslan also sat, blamed the hostage-taking on neighboring ethnic Ingals, many of whom have been sympathetic to the Chechen cause and discussed revenge. In any such scenario, civilians will suffer most. In the pictures from

School Number One, the world got a close-up of terror at work, and a greater understanding of how vulnerable the targets are. The children in the video were frightened. But they also looked incredibly patient, as they obeyed their harboring captives. And, hoped, against the odds, that someone would come to their rescue. **F**

Will the smoothness of School Number One lead to even more violence?



HERE'S THE BEEF

Ottawa and Canadian cattlemen battle the U.S. ban

CARSON HARTY speaks of life on the land with a mix of reverence and forbidding. Harty spent the past 14 years ranching, most recently running a small cow/calf operation near Okanoke, Minn., 200 km northwest of Winnipeg. "Ranching is hard, but it's also kind of a love affair," he says. "When you pull a calf out of a cow and get it breathing, there's an adrenaline high that can't be replaced." Farming is the biggest gamble in the world—and the biggest addiction. "You can have the best crop, the best animals, but then you have to gamble on whether you can get a fair price for your product."

By this spring, the stakes had become life or loss. The price Harty could get for his calves dropped precipitously after the Americans shut their borders to Canadian beef following the May 20, 2000, discovery of an Alberta cow suffering from bovine spongiform encephalopathy, better known as mad cow disease. Meanwhile, the cost of feeding his animals kept escalating. Harty became depressed, even suicidal. "All you hear is the negative side of the news," he says. "This sort of thing doesn't usually bring a release." Instead, Harty sold off his stock at the sale prices and started anew, buying a small

coffee shop in Okanoke. He has no regrets. "All of my friends are accused to the hilt," says the 51-year-old. "They don't know if they can make it through another fall."

That's the question on everyone's lips in cattle country these days. Sixteen months after the initial BSE scare, the U.S. border remains shut tight to livestock exports from Canada, resulting in losses \$2 billion in annual lost sales. For the past year, the U.S. has accepted barely any meat cuts from cattle under

"WE ARE seeking to reposition the industry so it can return to profitability, with or without the border reopening"

30 months of age, animals considered too young to contract mad cow disease. A glut of older cows that would normally be culled—the industry's prime time for slaughter—is backing up the system, contributing to depressed cattle prices as ranchers bring their animals to market. Inaction isn't all. Last week, federal Agriculture Minister Andy Mitchell

Alberta ranchers are seeking damages from Washington under NAFTA.

moved to provide some relief, announcing \$488 million in new post-BSE aid, all of it focused on making the Canadian beef industry less dependent on the U.S. market over the long term. "This package represents a shift in direction," Mitchell told reporters in Calgary. "We are working to reposition the beef industry so it can return to profitability, with or without the border reopening."

The measures are a direct and enthusiastic response to a multi-pronged survival strategy presented to Mitchell last month by the Canadian Cattlemen's Association, representing some 99,000 beef producers. While reopening full access to the U.S. market remains a top priority, both Mitchell and the CCA are embracing what they describe as "made-in-Canada" solutions to the mad cow crisis. There will be new funding to significantly expand slaughter capacity within Canada, reducing the number of animals being exported on the hoof and potentially keeping more of the post-slaughter jobs and profits at home. Ottawa also intends to get more aggressive about marketing Canadian beef beyond North America. More immediately, ranchers and feedlot operators will be allowed to finish their own-hold-on-young cattle until they can be profitably marketed. At the same time, Ottawa is planning a fairly radical cull of older cows and bulls, taking out no more than 60,000 to 90,000 animals from the system—between one and 1.5 percent of the entire beef cows in Canada.

The backdrop to all this is the continuing deadlock over lifting the U.S. export ban. Despite George W. Bush's vow this spring that he wanted to see the border opened "as soon as possible," nothing of substance has happened. With protectionist forces in the U.S. becoming increasingly vocal, industry insiders now agree the beef ban will almost certainly remain in place until the November presidential election—and perhaps for months, or even years, after that.

Many thought this would all be over by now. Last fall, political and industry leaders talked confidently of the border opening in early 2004. Those hopes were dashed in late December when an Alberta-born Holstein cow in Washington state tested positive for BSE. A Montana-based group known as B-CALF (Bovine Cattlemen's Action Legal Fund) seized on the discovery to insist

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Agriculture | >

Canadian beef was "seriously unsafe." This spring, R.C.A.F. was a joint injunction that effectively blocked a move by U.S. authorities to expand the types of meat products allowed across the border. Around the same time, 10 Democratic senators, including presidential candidate John Kerry, wrote to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman urging her not to lift the ban on Canadian live cows, lest the U.S. become a "dumping ground" for a product few other countries want. Some Canadian exporters fear this doesn't bode well should Kerry win the presidency.

Lately, ranchers and feedlot owners have started taking matters into their own hands. Curt Chiswick, a cow/calf operator from Blackie, Alta., is president of the Beef Initiative Group. One attempt is trying to convince ranchers in the four western provinces to help finance a large, producer-owned packing plant that would concentrate on slaughtering older cattle and marketing the meat to countries other than the United States. One aim is to appeal to nations currently shunning our beef because of health concerns. If, for example, Japan imposed all slaughtered

cows be tested for BSE, the plants would employ Canadian governments and beef industry groups have so far rejected such rigorous testing as unnecessary and costly. Overcoming this they're wrong. "We need," he says, "to give the global marketplace a product they have no excuse not to buy."

A LEGAL challenge alleges the U.S. border closure is based upon 'protectionist policies rather than science'

Rick Bonnett, a rancher and feedlot operator from Ponoka, Alta., is another grass roots activist. Bonnett says his family's business, which once fattened and finished up to 70,000 head of cattle a year, is now lucky to handle 20,000 and loses money every day the border remains closed. Last month, Bonnett and a handful of other Alberta-based producers filed a series of claims under Chapter 11 of the North American Free

Trade Agreement, seeking \$150 million in damages from Washington. They allege the border closure is based upon "protectionist policies rather than science" and represents an unfair advantage for U.S. producers. While such a legal challenge could take years to resolve, the group is hoping to put political pressure on the Americans to open the border long before that. "It's time," says Bonnett, "to stand up for ourselves."

Bonnett, who attended Murdoch's Calgary news conference, is not impressed by Ottawa's latest gambit, which follows more than \$1 billion in federal and provincial BSE aid packages since May 2003. He says politicians and cattle industry groups haven't been nearly aggressive enough with their U.S. counterparts. He also thinks the proposed bill is far too timid given the current glut of older animals nobody wants. "Right now, we're sitting on a time bomb with all these cattle," says Bonnett. "If they throw money at us this fall and the border still doesn't open, the taxpayer better be ready to throw double the money at us next spring. It's a real dilemma."

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SPIES IN THE SKIES

WesJet snoops in Air Canada's private files. Air Canada pilfers a WesJet exec's trash. As lawsuits fly, KATHERINE MACKLEM reports, the plot sickens.

STEPHEN SMITH is the type of boss who keeps his door open. As president of Zip, a sham head Air Canada subsidiary, he was known as gregarious and approachable, regularly walking around the Calgary office to check in with people. He also happens to be the former CEO of WesJet Airlines Ltd., Air Canada's archrival. All of which may be why he was the one to receive a phone call last December from a man identifying himself only as a WesJet employee. "I'm all for tough competition," said the voice on the phone, "but I



THE INSIDER A WesJet staffer tips off Air Canada to his employer's snooping through AC's internal website.

have to know the line it shouldn't conduct."

Then the caller dropped a bomb: WesJet was dipping into private Air Canada files online and passing the information around the executive suite. The caller reported that he had seen a multimedia page filled with Air Canada's flight level data—industry jargon for the number of passengers flying on a specific flight—on a server executive's computer. Smith suddenly feared WesJet brass might have access to a private site used by Air Canada employees to book their own travel, from which the snoopers could gauge which routes make money and which don't—valuable information in a business built on tight margins. If he was right, that could explain why WesJet seemed to be making all the right strategic decisions of late, such as flipping its Montreal-Vancouver flight from evening to morning.

Smith wasn't alone in his office when the call came. A colleague, Michael Rodnyak,

was also there, according to an affidavit Smith filed later. Unbeknownst to the West Jet snitch, Smith's phone displayed his name and number. As Smith was peering notes from the conversation, he pulled out an extra sheet of paper and says he indicated to Rodnyak to write down the information.

That phone call, which couldn't have lasted more than five minutes, eventually triggered a massive civil lawsuit over corporate espionage, one that provides a rare glimpse of the dirty tricks most resort to in the name of competition. Although none of the parties would go on the record for this story, affidavits, transcripts and background interviews reveal just how ruthless the airline business has become in this century, where Air Canada is battling a posse of up-and-comers, most notably the feisty WestJet, as it emerges from bankruptcy protection. Even in its early stages the case



THE SWITCHEROO The AC executive who helped to tip the informant jumps to WestJet. Website infiltrations stop.

has uncovered fresh incriminating material, but it will be months, possibly years, before the various players get their days in court. It may never get that far—many observers expect an out-of-court settlement. Still, the critical battle is playing out in the court of public opinion, where the two airlines' public personas so far seem reversed: Air Canada, long thought to be a corporate bully, appears to be the victim, while WestJet, for years the darling of investors and the fly-by-night, has been cast as the bad guy.

In its state-arms of claims, which accuses WesJet of "high-handed and malicious" conduct, Air Canada says the company surreptitiously tapped into its employee website and set up a "hacker to spy," a program designed to automatically lift data off one site and dump it onto another. WestJet boosted its own profits using that information, says Air Canada, claiming a whopping \$230 million in damages. In reply, WestJet dismisses the suit as an attempt to embarrass a rival, and it in turn accuses the national carrier of stealing its confidential information. It says Air Canada sent investigators to pilfer one of its executive's garbage—and has pretenses to prove it.

What makes this story into the realm of the absurd is that neither airline denies the accusations—what's disputed is whether doing so was wrong. WesJet admits a senior executive, Mark Hill, accessed Air Canada's website, Chris Roddey, the company's CEO, even apologized to shareholders for Hill's actions while disavowing WesJet's tambling profits this summer. For its part, Air Canada readily admits it took the garbage—in fact, it uses the reconstructed pages as evidence for its case. But almost in mirror fashion, they both scoff at the accusations. WesJet says its so-called cyber caught-up data that was neither confidential nor important. Air Canada's investigators deny they employed cyber snooping. If there weren't jobs and investors' money at stake,



GOTCHA! WestJet co-founder catches private eyes on AC's payroll pilfering his garbage, snaps photos as evidence.

says Hill, whose counterpart accuses the press of deceit and Air Canada of trespassing.

Hill's recycling material included shredded papers. After sorting the trash, the IPSA men sent the strips to a company in Houston that specializes in reconstructing shredded papers. They turned out to be reports comparing Air Canada's and Worjet's flight loads, according to Air Canada officials.

The day after Hill snagged the photos, and two weeks after Rodysluk jumped to Worjet, Air Canada filed a lawsuit against Worjet, Mark Hill and Jeffrey Laford. And last Wednesday, the suit was made public.

Some of the best drama in the case—and some of Air Canada's best evidence—came in pretrial cross-examinations, which took place in two glass-walled conference rooms at the company's law firm. Earl Cherniak, Air Canada's lawyer, is like a sharpshooter—quiet, precise and dangerous. In his June 10 questioning of Laford, the speaker was well attended: at least eight lawyers, a couple of airline executives, and Hill, who was to be examined immediately after. Laford admitted providing his employer and personal ID numbers for Air Canada's website to Hill, but said he didn't think the load factor information was relevant. The transcript of the 2½-hour cross-examination reads like a school principal getting a showstopper: Had Laford asked Hill how the information would be used? Did he know it would be used 243,000 times? Did he know it was used in an automated basis? No, no, and no. Laford answered:

"Mr. Hill never told you that?"

"No."

"So you had no idea, when you were giving Mr. Hill this screen, that he would use it in that way?"

"That's correct."

"Yes. But if you had known that, you wouldn't have given to him, would you?"

"Again, I don't think the load factor information is very relevant," said Laford. (He nonetheless told Hill how and got, on the same day he handed over the codes—an indication saying Worjet would take care of him for "any reason.")

At the beginning of Laford's grilling, Hill kept busy doing a crossword puzzle. By the time it was his turn on the hot seat, however, Hill was no longer comfortable. At one point during questioning, he was shaking, says one person who was in the room. Hill told Cherniak that when he first got



SHREDS OF EVIDENCE AC hires specialists to piece together the shredded papers its PIs found. The resulting jigsaw is incriminating.

Laford's screen code, he spent 90 minutes each evening going into the Air Canada website and analyzing its data. Later, he asked a Worjet computer expert to create a program that would retrieve the data automatically. But, said Hill, over and over, the load factor information was available from other sources. Airlines hire people to stand

Much of the case will ultimately revolve around this point: As one lawyer put it, if you are in a car running a red light, the case against the driver will be much tougher if you were left brain damaged than if you're lightly injured. The next step in this case may well determine whether Air Canada was misled or misled by its real victims. In July, Worjet was ordered to turn over its executives' hard drives for an independent review, which should help answer some outstanding questions. Why at Worjet knew? Who used the data? And how useful was it? Claude Probst, an airline analyst, noted in a July report that Worjet's load factors "demonstrated significantly" after it stopped accepting Air Canada's fares. Meanwhile, Air Canada's traffic figures have improved substantially.

In the end, both airlines may be hardly judged. With few controls on its employee website, Air Canada left itself wide open to snoops. Worjet's PR took advantage of its competition's lax security. But most importantly, both—whether in a tactic to divert attention from falling profits or a play to appear less of a bully—have blown their way out of proportion.

In its defense, Worjet doesn't deny accessing Air Canada's website, but it pointed the finger at Hill in the case who did the dirty work. Besides, says Worjet, it's Hill's website user's results, not Hill's actions, and the flight load information Hill obtained was of little value.

Illustration by Michael Leary

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THE FOLLY OF THE FIELD BET

Or, all I need to know about market psychology I learned playing craps

A LAS VEGAS CASINO is not the best place in the world to make investment decisions, what with the free drinks and all. But the casino floor is the ideal location for observing stock market psychology in action. Nowhere is the interplay of fear, greed, arrogance and adrenaline more obvious than at the green-felted craps tables of Sin City. On a recent trip to Vegas, while musing through a thickening haze produced by free rum-and-Colas and booming dice next to a broad array of affable tourists and affected hipsters, I was

struck by the parallels. The prowess and pitfalls of casino gambling and stock investing are exactly the same.

Gleaning around the table, the cast of characters suddenly looked for all the world like it had been plucked right off *Bay Street*. The dealers who collect and track bets are grizzled, helpful guys, but generally reberter at gambling than you or me, which makes them a lot like your stockbroker. They're rooting for you, really they are, but flatter because bigger winners are better tipsters, and that means more money for them.

The house, or table supervisor, is an older guy who sits in the middle of the action, wearing a nice suit, watching everything and saying nothing. This is vaguely reassuring because, hey, the guy with the nice suit is in charge. No fancy business in stock terms, he's the market regulator. And just like a real regulator, he generally does nothing unless something truly extraordinary happens.

But the vaguest similarities are among the players in both arenas. Watching your average gambler in Vegas, it quickly becomes apparent that these global brainiacs manage to build their life's savings plan in MacArthur the same way the casino floor finds their post-modern palaces in the middle of the desert. It's all based on the great human lust for money and dice (and for mead).

For example, people almost invariably decrease their bets when they should be increasing them. A classic point on the craps table, the best odds of winning come in the very beginning of each game, during what's known as the "come-out" roll. But rather than taking this opportunity, people often stand

around the edge of the table waiting to see a successful roll or two before they lay their chips down. By waiting, they significantly decrease their chances of winning—just as investors do when they wait to see if a company meets its earnings projections before buying its stock, or when they watch stock from the sidelines until it has doubled and then bet that it will double again. In the stock market it's known as chasing winners, and it's what gives us market bubbles, unrealistic valuations and sure losses.

In stocks, as in gambling, knowing when to step up and when to walk away is often what separates the pros from the suckers. Ask any decent financial adviser and they'll tell you the most common mistake among retail investors is that they hold on to their losing stocks too long. Ask any experienced

unavoidable bear market: "Not my fault, you see, the whole market was down."

Often, though, it's not the market that generates losses, it's cooler bets. Like the one I saw made again and again by a nervous-looking man with a Fu Manchu mustache and forearm the size of my thigh. Mr. Mustache put many, many chips on the "field bet" that night, and I had no idea surprise every time he lost. The field, as it's known, is the classic sucker's bet because it looks a lot easier to win than it actually is. If the shooter rolls a 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 or 12, you win. The trouble is, because it's a two-dice game, it's a lot more likely that the shooter will roll a 5, 6, 7 or 8—and you'll lose. On first glance the chance of winning looks like 64 per cent, but really it's just 44 per cent. Translation: the more field bets you make, the more money you're likely to part with.

I trained officers of this little market to me to my mind for a lot longer than I can remember, but I'm not sure I can remember the name and said, "Man, this table's cold."

It is worth remembering, however, that there are a couple of key differences between casino gambling and investing in the stock market. The market often favors the player, adding the more long-term perspective. A casino, on the other hand, is more transparent. Although casino odds are stacked against

you, in most they're stacked equally for all the same can't be said for Wall and Bay Street, where this self-interest multiplies your money if you have a lot of it to begin with.

So, by now you're no doubt wondering how Mr. Mustache is all dead at the tables. Well, I must confess I'm as susceptible to flawed thinking and ill-informed playing as any gambler. After six hours of brandy at the US300 tables, I walked away US\$80 poorer. But, like Mr. Mustache said, the tables were cold. I was the victim of a bear market. ■

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Scandal

BLACK'S TRAP

Forget the new charges, writes PETER C. NEWMAN. It's old sins that may nail Conrad.



ALONG WITH IMPEACHABLE language that blames Conrad Black for every felony except unleashing a plague of lawsuits on Saskatchewan's cattle cops, the 513-page report of Hollinger International's third-in-command probing controversial management fees and rare corporate paychecks has a hidden agenda. Instead of merely passing along an explosive report to the Chicago office of the Securities and Exchange Commission, which

is investigating the disgraced tycoon, one of the committee members failed to note that it has provided the SEC with its raw data, including transcripts of interviews with more than 60 witnesses plus almost 750,000 pages of potentially damaging documentation. This information will no doubt accelerate the SEC's inquiry.

Even Black's severest critics agree that should he be found guilty of the grotesque financial legislation (a good Conrad would resist "slight of hand") immortalized in the Brecken document, establishing that he acted with criminal intent may prove difficult, even impossible. But the authorities may have another way to pursue Black.

Two decades ago, Black found himself in a similar fix. He spent 20 hours over four days in the witness box of a Cleveland court, defending himself against an injunction brought by a U.S. mining company fearful of a takeover. Black's bid also sparked an SEC complaint that he eventually settled by signing a "consent decree," pledging never to violate the "anti fraud, tender offer and shareholder ownership provisions" of the Securities Exchange Act. Such consent decrees do not even order that can carry a heavy sanction: breaching them is potentially a criminal offense, and could result in jail time.

The issue now becomes whether, as has been alleged in chilling detail, Black and his partners misused 93.2 percent of Hollinger's adjusted net income over the past seven years. If so, it's hard to imagine that the SEC, sworn to defend shareholders' rights, would sanction personal greed on such a brazen scale. Combined with the 1982 consent decree, the case against Black would

be devastating. Relying on the consent decree rather than attempting to follow up everyone of the committee's scolding leads is a possible scenario.

In this context it's worth recalling the Cleveland episode, since it foreshadowed the post-Load's current, self-imposed godsend. Willing to break out of Canada into the United States during the early 1980s, Black, then a wealthy entrepreneur looking to diversify, targeted the Harris Mining Co., the world's second largest iron ore producer. It was dominated by Cleveland's Harris family and run by a crusty mining engineer named Bob Anderson, a hard-rock Lubliner



THE Americans hired a cadre of 40 lawyers to throw the book at Black, accusing him of 'a pattern of racketeering'

who looked his executive suite down if his managers were a manure fire. He spent four months slowly beating off Black's attempts to become a Harris dominion shareholder. The corporate demerit book was one of the bloodiest ever carried on across the 49th parallel, fought with knees to the groin by both sides. The Americans hired a cadre of 40 lawyers to throw the book at Black, accusing him, among other things, of "brazenness and manipulative conduct" and "a pattern of racketeering," which sounds hauntingly familiar.

During the injunction hearing, Harris' lawyers tried to break Conrad's will, but he clamped back just as strongly, though he was bloodied in the process. Black told me at the time that if he had any doubts his grab for Harris was challenging the very core of the American establishment, they were dispelled by the smouldering spectacle of five of Wall Street's most prestigious investment bankers, including Morgan Stanley and Solomon Brothers, refusing his invitation to become financial advisers to Noram Energy Resources, the Toronto company he controlled and was using in his takeover vehicle.

The Harris dispute ended around the minutes of a Noram management committee meeting on Sept. 3, 1983. That meeting—attended by, among others, Black and Noram president Ed Bartle—became the central scene in Harris's legal assault on Black's takeover bid. The minutes, in part, read: "Mr. Bartle stated that the company, subsequent to telephone contact with the members of the executive committee, had initiated through stock market transactions the acquisition of a 4.9-per-cent stock interest in a U.S. company based on the New York Stock Exchange with the ultimate purpose of acquiring a 31-per-cent interest in a later date."

But the document that Noram filed with the SEC on Nov. 9 claimed that the purpose of its share purchase was merely "to acquire

an investment position in Hema." This statement was drafted at least four times, following Black's instructions to make the filing "as short and antiseptic as possible." The tone of the Norcen declaration to the SEC had the effect of depressing Hema's stock on the New York Stock Exchange by US\$1, to US\$28, over the next five months. Having been officially informed that Black was content to treat Hema as a passive holding, investors assumed there would be no takeover bid to drive share prices up. Hema lawyers later claimed this constituted deliberate market manipulation.

When it became public that Norcen wanted to take over Hema, Anderson stormed into the ring, denouncing the Canadian snowbird as corporate villain, charging that Black and his associates "have demonstrated repeatedly and consistently over recent years that their first interest is in strong financial returns and not the remaining public

'THE jackals and piranhas smelled blood,' Black said. 'They thought I was about to go up in a puff of smoke.'

stockholders." Were to the point, Anderson's blarney had him working through the night preparing to file suit in Cleveland's federal district court for a restraining order against Norcen to prevent the Canadian firm from transferring its offer to Hema shareholders. The court quickly granted the injunction, ruling Norcen's version of the facts "misleading and unresponsive."

The SEC was also not amused. It charged that, among other things, Black and Norcen had "made untrue statements of material facts, omitted to state material facts necessary to make the statements made not misleading, and engaged in fraudulent, deceptive and manipulative acts and practices, and, accordingly, violated the tender offer anti-fraud provisions."

Two weeks after Black signed the SEC consent decree, Norcen and Hema needed their dispute. Black emerged with 20 percent of the shares, more than half of which were bought for US\$45 each, but the battle for hard-bested Hema came close to dinging Black's reputation within the hallowed



circle of the Canadian establishment. "The jackals and piranhas smelled blood," he said at the time. "They thought they had me, but I was about to go up the chimney in a puff of smoke. I'm speaking here not in any spirit of paranoia but in recognition of the mentality of our fellow citizens—the ghastly fascination with presenting an agonizing replay of the supposed possibility that I had committed crimes and might be charged with them, that sort of thing." "I never had any fun; how was I going to end up. It's all antiseptic in the United States. They never believed a golden rule

did Black and his most trusted partners, treasurer 66 per cent of Hollinger's profits?

of all that bank about racketeering. But some of our most credible and boy Scoutish locals were believed it."

At the time, Black complained his race with some antiseptic foreboding. "For years, I wondered what the difference between Canada and the United States really was—apart from the French Canadian and the monarchy," he said. "Now I know. This is a very good place—and that's a real hard league down there."

Scandal

CONRAD & ME

What does it feel like to be the object of Black's wrath? STEVE MAICH tells all.



IT WAS ALMOST exactly a year ago that Conrad Black told me to butt off. Of course, Black being Black, he said it far more colorfully than that, but his point was unmistakable.

His correspondence with me was brief, just a couple of flared emails about a week apart, after I'd started snooping around the gathering controversy at Hollinger International in August 2003. In his notes Black was

the supremely self-assured general that the world had come to recognize over almost three decades in business. He was convinced this latest would remain confined in its target, and would never pass into history, just another footnote to a long, controversial career.

Considering all that has come to light over the past 12 months, it's easy to forget that Black had good reason for his confidence. Aside from being the proprietor of some of the world's biggest newspapers, he was surrounded by a cadre of search boys, aides and advisors connected to the very peaks of financial and political power in Europe and North America. They stood by him as he built a media leviathan. He had no doubt they would stand by him again.

His correspondence with me was brief, just a couple of flared emails about a week apart, after I'd started snooping around the gathering controversy at Hollinger International in August 2003. In his notes Black was

the supremely self-assured general that the world had come to recognize over almost three decades in business. He was convinced this latest would remain confined in its target, and would never pass into history, just another footnote to a long, controversial career.

Arncliffe Park and Chicago's *Free Press*, had been a disappointing financial legend for years, and yet Conrad Black and others had seen their generous compensation maintained for above that of other major newspaper executives.

To quell the factor, Black had assembled a three-person special committee to investigate the investors' complaints and produce a report. He was sure it would absolve him of any wrongdoing. But I had heard from a source inside Hollinger that the committee uncovered some troubling information, and things were getting chilly behind the company's closed doors.

Still, one doesn't just bluster into a controversy with Conrad Black and maintain a reputation. So I sent him a few pointed questions, worded to respectfully bypass the board of directors and go straight to the heart of the matter. He was swift and unresponsive. There were no problems with the committee's findings, he said. He was so operating fully and everything at the company was completely above board. "You may put the same questions in a thousand slightly different ways, but you will eventually have to accept the fact that no one, officer or director, at Hollinger, has behaved with anything but the most complete propriety," he wrote. He

went on to describe the "facility" of the recent media coverage of the controversy and the "desperation" of many in the press to defame him.

Engaged with more questions, what about the US Securities and Exchange Commission? Was it investigating? Why did non-compensated payments from the sale of various newspapers go to him and other executives rather than to Hollinger International? Was he Canadian subsidiary, Hollinger Inc., being a cash crunch? And would he consider giving up control of the company to satisfy his critics?

If my first missive was mildly surprising to Black, the second got me crossed off the Christmas card list for good. The very next day my inbox contained a scathing reply, making it clear that I was now a charter member of the finessed and desperate club.

His next began weekly. "I haven't been all through this quite adequately by now." But it quickly picked up steam. The non-compensated payments always got mentioned, he argued, and they were mentioned at the board of the company, including Carl Icahn, Global Capital Markets chairman Larry Auer. As for the threat of insolvency, he argued, that was a myth. Black might lose control of his empire, he would have none of it. "The theory that there is any threat to the stability of the ownership structure is a complete fraud," he said.

But it was my raising the possibility of an SEC investigation that really touched a nerve. "There is no regulatory or prosecutorial

'WHY DON'T YOU find a real story somewhere instead of trying to scrape the barrel with all this nonsense?" he wrote. Then, ever polite, he signed off: "The best of luck to you. Yours sincerely, CONRAD BLACK"

question here at all. So all those fateful references to Enron, WorldCom and so forth [by various media] are just defamatory innuendo, as those companies are businesses whose fates have been alleged."

He finished with a warning prediction, and some more advice: "There will only be two further aspects to this story when we recognize Hollinger Inc. as a few weeks, and when the special committee confirms in a few months that the directors and officers acted with propriety. I believe we will be a tragic day away, but you are going to have difficulty keeping matters on the edges of their chairs with spurious 'updates' and trivia from quarterly filings until then. Why don't you try to find a real story somewhere instead of trying to scrape the barrel with all this nonsense..." Inexplicably polite to the end, he signed off with "The best of luck to you. Yours sincerely, CONRAD BLACK."

A FEW MONTHS later, Black's carefully constructed bias of defence began to crack. The special committee revealed to the SEC that Black and others had shared US\$32.2 million in unauthorised payments from Hollinger International. Black resigned as chief executive of the media company, but stayed on for the time being as chairman and insisted that he had not intentionally misled anyone. Behind the scenes, Hollinger's board meetings had taken on a wary, accusatory tone, with threats being lobbed back and forth.

Turn here a few more notes, but he never responded—which was probably wise, since Black rarely did himself any favours when he spoke off the cuff. In the middle of the storm last November, Black boasted out side a Toronto bookstore that he "made \$8 million back yesterday" (thanks to a rise in Hollinger's share price). The quip only had eased the resolve of those determined to bring him down.

With hindsight, of course, Black's confident boasts and pronounced composure seem like the false bravado of a man backed into a corner. Surely he must have known the committee would take issue with US\$4.4 million allegedly spent on staff at Black's personal residences, or the company paid US\$42,870 to his lawyer for his wife, Barbara Ann Black, for the US\$530,000 trip to Bermuda, half of which was allegedly charged to Hollinger. But I don't think Black was

BLACK underestimated the committee members' independence, their instinct for self-preservation, maybe even their integrity



Clockwise from bottom left: Black, Seitz and Savage, appointed to look into investors' concerns, were all men who ran in Black's social circles

bluffing me. I think he believed he had the high hand.

Black had stumbled down this before. A voracious eater in his career he had laced horns with the SEC, the Ontario Securities Commission, organized labour, the government of Ontario, even the prime minister, and each time Black emerged unscathed. Compared to tech-past confrontations, this one must have seemed trivial.

He even got to personally sack the special committee that would investigate him: Gordon Pat was a former investment banker who had arranged bond deals for Hollinger; Raymond Seitz was a former U.S. ambassador to the U.K., and a prominent member of the conservative political establishment in both countries. In fact, Seitz reported to Black's confidant, Henry Kissinger, in the U.S. State

Department of the 1970s. And Graham Savage was a well-scrubbed corporate director who came recommended by Black's long-time ally Peter Allanson, who served with Savage on the board of Canadian Tire. These were the kinds of people Black had always been able to count on for support and promise: men who ran his social circles and had little to gain by turning up trouble.

But Black underestimated their role as panderers, maybe even their integrity, and certainly their natural instinct for self-preservation. Pat, Savage and Seitz weren't going to hop on Black's sinking ship just to help him bail.

Soon, many of Black's friends and associates decided they too should make the rougher voyage. Marie-Josée Kravitz, the wife of Wall Street financier Henry Kravis, resigned from the board of Hollinger International, as did all of the high-powered independent directors from Hollinger Inc.: Allan Gubish, Douglas Barnett, Fredrick Tanson and Maureen Sabus. Former diplomat Richard Burn and one-time Illinois governor James Thompson both pledged their support for the special committee. Peter Allanson resigned and cut a deal to avoid being sued. Even Kissinger sided with Black's foes. And this month, the loss of Black's political bedfellows abandoned him, as Richard Perle told the New York Times that he had been misled, along with the rest of the board, about Black's competence.

It must have been inconceivable to Black, a man who cultivated connections and political power as Reverly as he pursued wealth, that he would find himself so readily alone. In the end, none of those friends in high places were willing to risk their own careers and reputations for the sake of protecting him. Black had believed they would, and he believed their support made him unassailable. That contest was the foundation of all his dismissive pronouncements to investors and analysts—and reporters like me. When that contest began to crumble, I never heard from him again.

ON THE PROSPECT of an SEC investigation, Black informed me, "There is no prosecutorial question here at all. So all that feverish reference to Enron, WorldCom and so forth are just defamatory nonsense."

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A HIGH-TECH GHOST STORY

A Winnipegger's death goes unnoticed for two years. Thank his computer.

ONE NOVEMBER DAY in 2002, Jim Sullivan, a 53-year-old retired municipal worker from Winnipeg, died embroiled, pulled the covers up, and died. Over the next 30 odd months, the U.S. invaded Iraq, Janet Jackson released herself as the Sugar Bowl, and Canadians—

with some reluctance—elected Paul Martin. But, tragically, a woman's untimely death, 25, 2004, toward the end of the Athens Summer Olympics, that somebody finally thought to look in on Jim Sullivan.

By the time police—alarmed, finally, by concerned relatives—climbed through the window of his second-story condo in the push River Heights neighbourhood, Sullivan's

body was in a mummified state. Everything about his only one-bedroom apartment was intact, although the food in his fridge was spoiled and his wall calendar was two years out of date.

After a brief investigation in which Manitoba's chief medical coroner determined he'd died of natural causes, the house conference of coroners that led to his delayed discovery began to emerge (and landed Sullivan's story on "weird news of the world" website from Houston to Cape Town). For one thing, he was a reclusive man. He was estranged from his family and had minimal contact with neighbors, most of whom assumed he'd taken an extended vacation. Also, he suffered from a medical condition that prevented his body from decomposing—and therefore expelling any telltale odors.

But the primary factor in the delay, it turns out, was technology—or more specifically, automated banking. Sullivan suffered from multiple sclerosis and received monthly disability pension, which was deposited directly into his bank account. He made fees, utilities and other expenses were then deducted automatically. As such, his bills were routinely being paid up well beyond his death. Why wouldn't his creditors assume he was alive?

So it is in Sullivan's tale that emerges a dull, dry fact: that new technologies like electronic banking have created a system in which it's possible to become so physically disengaged from the day-to-day administration of your own affairs that your life can effectively go on without you, perhaps in defiance. "For many practical purposes,

this man was usually alive throughout that time," says Teresa Moran, professor of Media Ecology at New York University, a program he founded with Neil Postman, the celebrated media critic, in 1971. Marshall McLuhan famously said that media are extensions of ourselves, Moran points out. "This man's life was extended for two years by the technology he used. Postman would've said that what you have here is a lack of community."

What you also have is Eubabe. A forerunner to the Internet, the artist, intellectual and other prophets of despair (most notably McLuhan, U.S. cultural theorist Lewis Mumford and

IN ACADEMIA,
a war has been raging
over the true emotional
impact of the Internet and
its automated services

French philosopher Jacques Ellul) who've long warned that too much reliance on technology will result in a whittling away of human virtues and freedoms in ways we can't begin to understand. The dark, in evitable and unforeseeable consequences of technology were in inspiration for Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, as well as Blade Runner and the *Matrix* trilogy. This is what Postman called technology's "Frankensteinian." It is a mistake to suppose that any technological innovation has a one-sided effect," he wrote. "Every technology is both a burden and a blessing, not a liberator, but this and that."

Often, says Moran, the most significant consequences of technological innovation are the ones we could have least predicted. When the automobile was first invented, people had concerns, but primarily about safety. "Nobody predicted it would lead to our pollution, stress and the suburbanization of America," he says. Likewise with the Internet, concerns have primarily centered around access and privacy. But the actual social implications of chat rooms, instant messaging, and online dating may not emerge for decades to come.

In academia, a war has been raging over the true emotional, social and psychological impact of the Internet and the automated services it affords us. Some, critics say, new media help us overcome broad areas of time and space. They foster communication, productivity and access to information—but often at the cost of face-to-face interaction with family, friends, neighbors and shopkeepers. By its very nature, they argue, the new technology devalues communities.

Professors Robert Krul of Carnegie Mellon University and Norman Wye of Stanford were two of the first to examine the societal impact of new technologies. In separate studies, they each concluded that frequent Internet use leads to a decline in social support, family communication and the use of one's social network, and an increase in depression and loneliness. "The Internet," said Wye, "could be the ultimate isolating technology that further reduces our participation in communities even more than dial-up automobiles and television before it." In other words, electronic media have created a new definition of what it means to be connected—one which, paradoxically, estrains those people "together, alone and unrecognized," he said.

Consider that your average young person spends 6½ hours a day in front of a screen of one stripe or another, whether it be playing video games, surfing the Web, downloading music onto an iPod or text

messaging with a BlackBerry. In a recent study, 20 per cent of teenagers said they no longer responded to their primary mode of communication with friends.

A techno-diaper will tell you that virtual communication is a poor substitute for meaningful, face-to-face interaction. "It's only the illusion of interacting," says Moran. "By creating some virtual food or breathing some virtual air."

It's no secret we've come to rely on technology to help alleviate a litany of late-day ills: loneliness, homelessness, isolation, time and isolation. (There are new sized devices that help adults monitor their elderly parents from afar. If they alter their

daily activities in any suspicious way, this information will be transmitted electronically.) Useful, but not quite the same as dropping by.

Of course, it's a little persuasive to argue that new technology is transforming people into apathetic techno-zombies. For the time being, in heretics clearly outweigh its drawbacks. In fact, Keith Hartman, a Canadian professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, recently created local chat lines and found that they actually made residents more likely to meet their neighbors in person. "My work suggests you can use new technologies to encourage new social ties and strengthen local relationships," he says. (Hartman makes another good point: "was

interaction with the bank teller really that meaningful?")

The downside is undeniable, however, as evidenced by Jim Sullivan's lonely demise. In his immediate community, his death has had direct consequences for his neighbors, many of whom are elderly or disabled and horrified by the idea that someone could be so completely forgotten. Gladys Lowry, who lives alone in the apartment two doors down from where Sullivan died, now feels compelled to make more direct human contact. "I know this could never really happen to me," she says, "but my neighbor and I have decided to phone each other every other day—just in case."



VICIOUS SPORT

The campaign will poison U.S. politics for years



OUR JULY 12 cover page featured Paul Wells's post-election report, "The inside story of Canada's noisiest campaign." Fellow Canadians, rejoice! (Isn't the worst the nation's political process can deliver, for happy Canada? Political campaigns are so polite—and so brief.)

As a Canadian who has worked in the U.S. for 17 years, I can attest that the American way of politics as a year-round contact sport can be

noisy and vicious. The current presidential election began in earnest last October, when Democratic candidates campaigned full-time in towns and New Hampshire. The good news: noise will be counted in less than two months. The bad news: the anger that campaigns has engendered will poison American politics—and possibly its foreign relations—for years to come. Two worse news: despite all the speeches, ads and squabbles, neither presidential candidate has leveled with the people about the nation's challenges.

If elections are exercises in democracy, this one is as far from that as a car crash. Iraq and Afghanistan are in crisis, the stock market is going south, the economy is slipping precipitously and since George W. Bush's financial straits were off, oil hit an all-time high, the health care system is a painful expense playground for rude insurance malpractice lawyers who sue for parties with junk science (like the charming Democratic vice-presidential nominee, John Edwards), and most voters think the nation is on the wrong track—a collective sensation that weakens consumer spending.

It's time for change. Well, it is! Amazingly, Bush now has the lead because of the limited but successful conservative deluge. Yet, he's had almost

nothing but bad news the past year: chaos in Iraq, a Taliban comeback in the suburbs of Afghanistan, prisoner abuse in Abu Ghraib, soaring fiscal and trade deficits, high-priced gasoline and skyrocketing costs. Since voters elect presidents to deliver peace and prosperity, how can Bush be even competitive?

For the Democrats, John Kerry's standing outside the United States compared to Bush's is generally much higher. These reasons are

DESPITE all the speeches, squabbles and ads, neither candidate has leveled about the nation's challenges

disastrously: just as Democrats in any election predict any they design Bush personally the way they designed Richard Nixon. Kerry reads in his support abroad, his struggles to impress Americans. He earlier had a real chance of winning. In the fall election, were clearly being told in January, when some polls suggested a general election could beat him. But Kerry asked out to be the general. Democrats unable to attract voters because of who he is, what he has done

or what he believes. The sole basis of support is that he's just not Bush. His beauty is how perceived at a distance.

Instead of running a Kennedy-style campaign of nerve and optimism, Kerry took loose the reins concerning the nation's Vietnam wounds. Seeking to use his own great war performance to contrast Bush's situation as a war president, and to remind voters that Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney never fought, Kerry waded into re-creating old horrors, dredging the nation even more deeply. His Band of Brothers of Swift Boat servicemen saved his faltering candidacy in the Iowa caucuses, earned him nomination in subsequent primaries and made his official nomination ceremony a tribute to a war hero ready to be commander-in-chief.

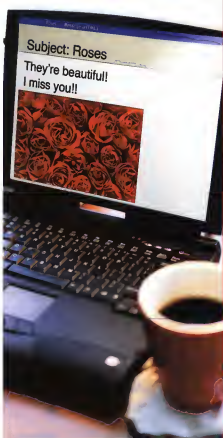
What he should have expected were signals from the thousands of Vietnam vets who have since 1971 considered how he has who accused them of gross misconduct in a passionate Senate testimony. Renaming Vietnam veterans found they were not guilty as heroes, but as murderers of innocent children in "Nixon's War." Although many others protested war crimes, Kerry had enormous public anger because of his heroism, his policies behind and his disliking of it. (His Yale debating coach told Kerry was his best pupil since William F. Buckley Jr.)

It would be absurd if the election were decided over Kerry's Vietnam record when Bush's entire performance as president is a continuation to a challenger offering tough, realistic policies. If Kerry were the thoughtful Democrat many business people hoped for, he'd be proposing reasonable alternatives to Bush's programs on energy, fiscal policy—the ones that will soon engulf Medicare and social security—and would be clear about how he'd revise the NATO alliance.

Bush's energy bill, for one—a grotesque combination of proposed profits and subsidies handed in the Senate—was a heaven-sent opportunity for Kerry to show leadership. Yet, Kerry achieved the seemingly impossible—proposing an equally useless energy program. It bows vaguely toward Kyoto and, like every energy program in the last three decades, places reliance on those as yet undiscovered new technologies that will "get us off oil."

As for nuclear power, the obvious alternative

CONTINUED ON PAGE 42



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Turn it On

A Guide to Fall Entertainment
Get Out or Stay Home. TV, Movies,
Music, Books and More.

TV This Fall

CAN YOU TAKE JUST A LITTLE MORE REALITY?

It may not be actual reality, but it plays well on TV. After a summer filled with bachelors, oases and *The Apprentice*, unscripted programming is still a top commodity in this fall's TV lineup.

One preexisting theme is sports, with several new shows muscling in. *The Contender* (premieres Nov. 9, Global TV) is the latest offering from Mark Burnett, creator of the *Survivor* series, in a co-production with Sylvester Stallone. The series of hour-long shows will follow the lives of a group of promising boxers. Contestants will train with Stallone and five-time champ Sugar Ray Leonard and, in a live finale, compete for US\$1 million in prize money.

Proving that one good proeflight begets another, *Next Great Champ* (premieres Sept. 10, Global TV) is headlined by six-time world champion boxer Oscar de la Hoya. He seeks to discover young, raw boxers who can take it out to the top to win a professional contract.

Canada's contribution to the sports genre is *Making the Cut* (premieres Sept. 21, CBC Television), presented by Bell, which follows a nationwide search for the country's best unsigned hockey players. Six will win a chance to attend real NHL training camps.



Queer Eye for the Straight Guy

Where-are-they-now TV

In a reversal of an ongoing today's new hit, a few fall programs seek to unseat yesterday's winners.

Broke Backed (moderately) is a series that travels the globe to track down and reunite old handshakes from super-groups of decades past, hoping they'll set aside the pain of a painful breakup for a one-time performance.

Falling into the category of "I knew them when...," **Starville** (Star!) explores the hometown roots of celebrities, including Avril Lavigne and Mike Myers. The half-hour series interviews friends, neighbors, teachers, parents, coaches, girlfriends and boyfriends of the stars.

Dramas and miniseries

After last season's spin-off episode on **CSI: Miami**, the new **CSI: NY** (premieres Sept. 22, CTV) heats up the fall schedule. The Alliance Atlantis production stars Gary Sinise as a driven crime scene investigator in the Big Apple.

For West Coast drama, Heather Locklear returns to prime time in **LAX** (premieres Sept. 13, Global TV), a series set in the bustle of Los Angeles

International Airport.

Back on earth in Canada, actor Paul Gross stars in a four-hour political thriller set on Parliament Hill. **H20** (CBC Television) playing the son of a deceased Prime Minister—who has drowned on a canoe trip—Gross' character galvanizes the nation with a eulogy at his dad's funeral, wins the office of PM and uncovers a shocking plot that suggests the death was not accidental.

Also on CBC Television debuting Oct. 10 and 11 is **Sex Traffic**, a drama that crosses the globe to portray the lives of young women drawn into a multi-billion-dollar business importing sex workers into Europe and North America.



LAX

Home Theatre BRING HOME THE BIG SCREEN

Toshiba has stepped into the crossover spot between home computing and home entertainment with a new notebook PC media centre that can consolidate cable TV, DVD, VCR, digital video and gaming consoles.

The notebook, called **Queosia** and available this fall, has a built-in television tuner, a TV-quality 17-inch display, a DVD drive and Harman Kardon speakers. It's a portable multimedia studio and can be used to record your favourite TV programs onto a hard drive or DVD. It retails for about \$3,599.

Forget the multiples. With a suggested retail price of \$42,000, **Sony of Canada Ltd.'s new Quasia 004 SXRD projector** aims to bring life-like quality to the high-end home theatre experience.



This digital, high-definition projector delivers twice the pixel density of displays that use high-temperature polysilicon LCD technology. It's the pinnacle of Sony's line of home theatre products and systems developed for custom installations.

For those who'd rather rest than beg, cable TV providers are now offering **personal video recorders** for time-

shifting cable TV viewing. These are like a digital version of a VCR that let you pause a live broadcast, view instant replays or record two programs simultaneously on the device's hard drive while watching a third. Rentals start at about \$199.95/month for a set-top terminal, and also come in a high-definition television (HDTV) version currently available through **Hogies Cable**.

Movie nights

From a galaxy far, far away—and on DVD for the first time together—the **Star Wars Trilogy** from Lucasfilm Ltd. and Twentieth Century Fox will be in stores Sept. 23. Priced at about \$60, this boxed set features the three original episodes, **A New Hope**, **The Empire Strikes Back** and **Return**

GEORGE CLONNEY | BRAD PITT | MATT DAMON | CATHERINE ZETA-JONES | ANDY GARCIA | DON CHEADLE | BERNIE MAC | JULIA ROBERTS



IN THEATRES
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of the Jedi, restored and remastered. Each film has new commentary by George Lucas and members of the cast and crew. Four hours of extras include a new two-and-a-half-hour documentary tracing the evolution of Star Wars from a low-budget space saga to blockbuster movie. There's even an Xbox demo of the new Star Wars Battlefront video game. (The game will be launched for PlayStation 2, Xbox and PC-CD on the same date - Sept. 2.)

After pioneering *Coffee and Cigarettes* at last year's Toronto International Film Festival, MGM Home Entertainment releases it on DVD and VHS on Sept. 21. An army comedy that over two decades by director Jim Jarmusch, the film's stellar cast includes Bill Murray, Cate Blanchett, Roberto Benigni, Iggy Pop, Tom Waits and The White Stripes. Installations were shot on TV and movie locations and revolve around the ordinary activities of drinking coffee and smoking cigarettes.

If the weather has you down, look for *The Day After Tomorrow* on video stores in October. Starring Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal and Sela Ward, this special-effects disaster flick - by the director of *Independence Day*, Roland Emmerich - depicts catastrophic climate change on Earth.

Also in October, Universal Studios Home Video releases the remake of cult classic *Dawn of the Dead*, starring Sarah Polley. In it, survivors of a plague take refuge from the undead in a shopping mall.

Silver Screen THE BUZZ ON THE SEASON'S BLOCKBUSTERS



Action and drama rule this box office season, with movies ranging from epic bio-pics, spectacular sci-fi, to the anticipated return of George Clooney's modern-day *Rat Pack*.

In November, Oliver Stone's *Alexander* casts Colin Farrell in the role of Alexander the Great, released by Warner Bros. Pictures. Stone's original screenplay and story sheds light on how this fearless young man came to initially conquer the world by the time he was thirty years old, leading his Greek and Macedonian armies through 22,000 miles of sieges and conquests. The historical epic also stars Angelina Jolie, Val Kilmer and Anthony Hopkins.

In theaters on Oct. 22, *Flight of the Phoenix* puts Dennis Quaid among a group of air crash survivors stranded in Mongolia's Gobi Desert with no hope of rescue. This cast-offs from society attempt to build a new plane from the wreckage to get back to civilization.

Paramount Pictures' futuristic *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow* is touted as a first in special effects, filmed entirely on blue screens with effects filled in digitally on every frame. Gayle Brown is girl reporter Polly Perkins, investigating why the world's most famous scientists have mysteriously disappeared. She teams with Jude Law, as Ace Aviator Sky Captain, to derail an evil mastermind's plot to destroy the planet. In December, Clooney's boys will be back in *Ocean's Twelve*, the sequel to Warner Bros.' blockbuster remake of *Ocean's Eleven*. It reunites Hollywood's favourite heist team, including George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Andy Garcia, Bernie Mac, Julia Roberts and the rest of the gang.

Before Christmas (scheduled November release), expect to hear more red-hot buzz for *The Aviator*, the Martin Scorsese film that puts Leonardo DiCaprio into the lead playing Hollywood film mogul and aviator Howard Hughes. It recounts the eccentric billionaire's life from the late 1920s to the 1940s, when he romanced some of the world's most beautiful women and made aviation history. Co-stars include Jude Law playing Errol Flynn, Cate Blanchett as Katharine Hepburn, Kate Beckinsale as Ava Gardner and No Doubt's Gwen Stefani playing Joan Harlow.

Box Office Weekends Highlights of Fall's Scheduled Theatrical Releases

Sept. 24
First Daughter 20th Century Fox
The Pigeonhole Sony
Mr. 3000 Warner Bros.

Oct. 8
I Am Steve Lasker's Gate
Ladder 48 Warner Bros.
A Sound of Thunder Warner Bros.
Tad 20th Century Fox

Oct. 15
Being Julia Sony Classics
Friday Night Lights Universal
Team America World Police
Permanent Partners

Oct. 22
Alfie (2004) Paramount Pictures
Flight of the Phoenix 20th Century Fox
J.M. Barrie's Neverland Miramax

Nov. 5
Alexander Warner Bros.

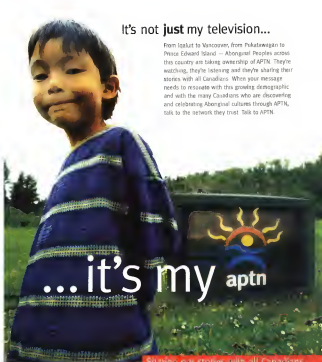
Nov. 10
The Polar Express Warner Bros.
Seed of Chucky Focus Features
Surviving Christmas Dreamworks SKG

Nov. 18
Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason Universal
Sprenglebob Squarepants Paramount

Dec. 10
Ocean's Twelve Warner Bros.
Dec. 17
The Aviator Warner Bros.

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Comedies

It's perfectly fine to call the sassy "twunder" in Paramount's **Team America: World Police**, opening Oct. 15. The movie stars rascally puppet superheroes who combat the world's evil forces and put has-been celebrities out of their misery, brought to you by the makers of **South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut**.

Adding to the growing genre of presidential comedies, Regency Entertainment and Twentieth Century Fox bring **First Daughter** to the box office on Sept. 24. Starring **Michael Keaton** as the President of the United States and the ever-so-cute **Katie Holmes** as first offspring Samantha Mackenzie, the premise plays on Sam's youthful desire to jump out of the fishbowl of public life and be a regular college student away from the White House and parents.

In October, **Queen Latifah** teams with Saturday Night Live's **Jimmy Fallon** in the action comedy **Taxi**. As New York's fastest cabbie, Latifah's skills behind the wheel and scoping-up car help underdog cop Fallon hunt a gang of female bank robbers.

Kids fare

By now, anyone under 10 knows the absorbing (and absorbent) **SpongeBob SquarePants** from the popular TV series on Nickelodeon. On Nov. 19, the sponge soaks up the big screen in **The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie**, from Paramount Pictures and Nickelodeon Movies. The cast of voices includes Alec Baldwin, David Hasselhoff, Scarlett Johansson and Jeffrey Tambor, in an action-packed undersea adventure.

In December, Jim Carrey dons yet another outrageous onscreen personality,



The *SpongeBob SquarePants Movie*

portraying the wily villain Count Olaf in **Jimmy Neutron's A Series of Unfortunate Events**, from Paramount Pictures and Dreamworks. Based on the children's books that topped *Harry Potter* from the children's bestseller list, the cast includes Liam Aiken, Catherine O'Hara, Meryl Streep and Jude Law.

Tunes for the Times

Shopping for CDs this fall could find you some vinyl extras, as many record labels sweeten their seasonal offer with bonus DVDs, including goodies like concert footage and artist interviews. It's paving the way for dual CD/DVD hybrid packages that major music labels have been experimenting with and are expected to bring to store shelves by late fall or early 2005.

Fall releases

From the Rhino label, through Warner Music Canada, a new retrospective disc called **Dreamland** by **Paul Mitchell** will be released in mid-September. Along with 17 of her best-known career-spanning tracks, this collection includes complete lyrics and a package that reproduces several of Joan's original paintings.

Also from Warner Music Canada, on the Nonesuch Records label, is the much-anticipated Sept. 28 launch of **SMILE**, after referred to as the most

famous unreleased album of all time.

On Elektra Records, **Björk** follows up her 2001 *Vespertine* album with **Vidúla**, an unusual CD focused on rhythmic structures created vocally, from classical choirs to least drowsy-singing, over the lushly sound of celebrated batbox artists.

Also recently released on the off-the-wall vocal front is **The Ten Tenors Larger than Life** CD plus DVD set. These classically trained A-list vocal phenoms strut their stuff in opera, pop, rock, cabaret and more.

Available on DVD and CD for the first time from Warner Music Canada, the **Soul to Soul** two-disc set to be released this fall features artists including **Wilson Pickett**, **Sonoma**, **Ike and Tina Turner** and **the Voices of East Harlem**. The newly remastered award-winning film documents the American pop artists who travelled to Ghana on March 6, 1971 to take part in a 14-hour musical on liberation and cultural exchange between two continents, celebrating Ghana's 14th anniversary of

independence from Great Britain. The CD contains the expanded original soundtrack, including performances not featured in the film.

Top September Music Releases

Green Day – *American Idiot*
Bryan Adams – *Room Service*
Nelly – *Sweat and Suits*
(all albums released independently)
Rosemab – *Rosemab*
Leonard Cohen – *Dear Heather*
Alan Jackson – *What I Do*

Source: HMV Canada

Top Five Fall/Winter Music Releases

Black Eyed Peas – *Motivation*
Business
U2 – *new CD*
Sheryl Crow – *Greatest Hits*
Enrique – *new CD*
Erykah – *new CD*

Source: HMV Canada

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VAL KILMER

JARED LETO

ANGELINA JOLIE

ROSARIO DAWSON

AND ANTHONY HOPKINS

AN OLIVER STONE FILM
ALEXANDER

WRITTEN BY OLIVER STONE AND LAETA KALOGRIDIS
DIRECTED BY OLIVER STONE

IN THEATRES NOVEMBER 5



to fossil fuels, he not only doesn't suggest breaking the logjam that has blocked nuclear plant construction for more than two decades, he takes what even his admirers at the New York Times say is a demagogic up-pitch toward opposing the burying of spent nuclear fuel beneath Yucca Mountain in Nevada. (Unless a burial plot is found soon, some claim nuclear plants will be in

trouble.) However, Nevada is one of several key battleground election states, and many Nevadans cautiously object to taking either side's nuclear waste.

Kerry shares Bush's refusal to do the obvious—raise federal gasoline taxes to get market forces working in favour of fuel-efficient cars. (Are there still people who don't understand that if you want to do

Kerry has been unable to attract voters because of who he is, what he has done or what he believes

courage an activity, sue it heavily, and if you want to encourage it, not to sue?) Nor has he made any serious proposals about the financial disaster facing Medicare and pensions when baby boomers retire. By getting Edwards on the ticket, Kerry has endorsed the trial lawyers' biggest political demand—a "patients' bill of rights" for health insurance and Medicare that includes a virtually unlimited right to sue. Perhaps the biggest reason why health care costs so much more in the United States than in Canada is Americans' addiction to high-cost medical litigation.

Kerry was the acrobatic protection against the outright protectionism of Howard Dean and Edwards by promising to punish "Benevolent Amok" CEOs who ensnare jobs abroad. Although he was vague about his list, it would apparently include Hollywood producers who shoot movies in Canada and auto companies that open plants in Ontario. His branding of executives as traitors recalls the era 50 years ago when Joe McCarthy accused Democrats of "Twenty years of treason" (Kerry has toned down his protectionist rhetoric lately, clearing speech writers made him do it.)

In the waning days of the Canadian election, polls showed that many voters had "a pin on all your houses" attitude toward the major parties. That's happening in the U.S., too. The stock market languishes, in part, because of wariness about the political

process. Political equity investors show they prefer Bush, as if he were, that might give stocks a brief boost. But what's most needed, say these investors, is to get beyond Nov. 2 and simply end this stale, flat and unprofitable campaign. ■

Chicago-based Donald Cook is Global Portfolio Strategist, D&D Financial Group, dcook@dadfinancial.ca

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BEST OF THE FALL

AUGUST IS THE LULL BEFORE THE STORM, a chance to catch up. Time to plunge into that Gillen-nominated novel from last year, to rent that Oscar-winning movie, to watch *Six Feet Under* on DVD. Come September, the world of entertainment wakes up with a vengeance. In Canada, it all starts with the star-studded Toronto International Film Festival. And then it's a barrage of new TV shows, ballets, books, book prizes, CDs and artist tours, games, operas... the list goes on and on. *Maclean's* offers a tour of the Toronto film festival and the best of the fall season.

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MACLEANS | SEPTEMBER 22, 2004 41

BEYOND BOFFO

Toronto's film fest may be jammed with stars, but it also offers movies of substance—and Oscar potential

IF YOU HAD TO PINPOINT THE MOMENT when Toronto's film festival came of age, it was exactly 20 years ago. In 1984, the festival staged a gala tribute to Warren Beatty, honoring a pair of talents just to fly him and his pal Jack Nicholson—Hollywood's Mick 'n' Keith—into town from opposite coasts. The same year premiered feature debuts by the Coen brothers, Jim Jarmusch, Steven Soderbergh, Luc Besson and Aaron Coplan—a future pantheon of indie cinema. It also launched *Perpetrator* Canada as an annual recipient of local

talent, and staged a monumental retrospective of 200 Canadian films.

Last week, Beatty was back at the festival on the arm of his wife, Annette Bening, star of *Being Julia*, the opening night gala produced by Canadian mogul Ruben Lamor. Now in its 29th year, the festival—which was almost bankrupted by the Beatty tribute—has enough financial clout that it's raising \$196 million to build and operate a new headquarters. And after two decades, *Perpetrator* Canada has been sublimed, on the grounds that Canadian films can finally hold their own among international fare. This year they range from Rob Stefanski's *Phil the Alien*, which stars a face about as alcoholic as extraterrestrial, to Don McKellar's *Crabtree*, a mordant satire about a peevish celebrity who falls for a starlet in Hollywood North.

Meanwhile, unlike its beleaguered rival in Montreal, the Toronto International Film Festival (Sept. 9-18) no longer has to flatter stars with invites to get them to attend. This year's TIFF guests list includes Sean Penn, Al Pacino, Penelope Cruz, Jeremy Irons, Kate Winslet, Hilary Swank, Kevin Spacey, Kevin Bacon, Scarlett Johansson,

Liam Neeson, Susan Sarandon, Sigourney Weaver, Liam Neeson, Sandra Bullock, Lily Tomlin and Dennis Hopper.

It has become a fall rite. Every September, after Hollywood folds up an annual of summer blockbusters, Toronto takes in the pre-Oscar season of serious filmgoing. Lending local credence to the city's dreams of world-class grandeur, it also kicks off a chain reaction of film festivals across the country, from Halifax to Vancouver. With programs skinned from the carcasses of Cannes, Berlin and Sundance—along with its own formidable roster of world premieres—TIFF now ranks to the world's most vital and comprehensive film festival. As Sony Pictures Classics executive Michael Barker told me in a moment of frustration at Sundance last January: "Toronto is the fall banger."

This year it begins with *demam*, the breezy opening-night conception of *Being Julia*. With Lamor at the helm, it's a Canadian movie, co-produced with Hungary and the U.K. But aside from some familiar faces in minor roles, there's not much identifiably Canadian about this conventional period comedy. Shot in Europe and based on a



Leading lady Bening, arriving for the world premiere of *Being Julia*, are part of a festival that once high-powered movie exec described as "the fall banger."

novella by W. Somerset Maugham, it has a Hungarian director (István Szabó), a British screenwriter (The Piano's Ronald Harwood) and a Hollywood star. Bening plays a London stage actress undergoing a mid-life crisis, a fading diva who arrives her libido, and her ego, by having an affair with a young man, then plots revenge after he betrays her for an ingrate. It's the ninth Lamor movie to open the festival, and its role could better be changed with that of his first opening-night gala—1978's *De Paris of Older Women*.

Being Julia is just one of many gift-edged period pieces at the festival that frame shows, Oscar-style roles—Sean Spacey as singer Bobby Darin in *Legend of the Sea*, Juneau Pons as Ray Charles in *Ray*, Liam Neeson as the revolutionary sex researcher in *Rosely*, Al Pacino as a homicide novelist in *Shlock* to *Merchant of Venice*, Gail García Bernal as a brooding young Che Guevara in *The Motorcycle Diaries*, Charles Theron as a promiscuous socialist flirting with Nasa Germany in *Find in the Clouds*, and Bruno Ganz in a magnetic *Adolph Hitler in Dörmann*.

All these roles are, on some level, playing actors—larger-than-life characters engaged in a kind of heroic performance. It's not inconceivable that, come Oscar time, we could see Mel Gibson's Jesus Christ square off against Hilary Swank's *Shlock*, and Ray For Hollywood, history is the ultimate victory movie. But there's a whole other realm of international cinema that works more like a window, offering clear and compelling views of the world around us. Running through the festival program—124 films from 11 countries—is a mind-blowing of political substance: "A lot of the films that we've selected," says festival director and CEO Peter Handberg, "deal with serious contemporary issues—post-9/11, terrorism, Iraq, Iraq. It's not entertainment for entertainment's sake."

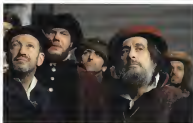
Noah Cowan, TIFF's vice-director and her apparent co-handling, has already had to fend off a protest over *Castaway*. The Art

of *Killing a King*, a Montreal documentary about a video artist who killed, avowed and then per to make a point about eating meat. The producers hadn't seen the film, which doesn't show actual video footage of the film's strategy, but they issued a death threat and a series of letters of outrage, and called for a lawsuit beyond. Given that it can be out that the title would get singled out in a lineup that also includes the most charismatic portrait of Hitler ever brought to the screen (*Downfall*) and two portraits of Rwandan genocide—*Blue Rwanda* and *Shake Hands with the Devil*, *The Journey of James Galtier*. The Doherty documentary, directed by Canada's Peter Raymont, tells a story that's hard to watch, but even harder to turn away from—because that's exactly what the world did when it was taking place.

Africa has the lion's share of serious substance. The festival's spotlight country this year is South Africa, and it has produced some fine work. In Darrell Rood's *Intimacy*, a small young mother in a Zulu village tries two hours to a clinic to discover who has AIDS. Set against a stark landscape of aching beauty, this tragic tale drags a continent's unseen catastrophe into one woman's cabin, ennobling struggle. Directed by a white man, *Intimacy* is the first major film in the Zulu language, and in a post-apartheid South Africa, it arrives as a sobering inspiration.

Another two South African films, *Red Dust* and *Forgiveness*, examine the bitter fallout of apartheid, with characters torn between vengeance and reconciliation. Both are about former police officers seeking penance. In *Forgiveness*, an ex-cop visits a dying village to seek redemption from the family of a man he murdered—still wrong as men here, every shade of outrage and empathy is represented. Who's remarkable about the South African movies is how they find such pure emotional truth in issues with no easy answers. The same can be said for the Canadian *Abolition*, a masterpiece from 82-year-old Senegalese writer Ousmane Sembène—the drama of a village headoff that escalates when a mother moves to protect her daughter from female circumcision.

The *Sea Wolves* is another quiet tour de force that transcends a controversial issue. Directed by Spain's Alejandro Amenábar (*Open Your Eyes*, *The Others*), this deadly life-affirming drama gently champions the rights to euthanasia. As a quadriplegic with a death wish, Javier Bardem gives a performance so



Shoreline members in *Touch City South* (top); *Peace* is a little blurry (below) and *Black*

ripe with wit and humor that you find yourself rooting for his right to die while desperately wanting him to live.

No festival would be complete without films that push the erotic envelope. With 9 Seggs, British director Michael Winterbottom (*Julie, Welcome to Sevens*) offers a love story with scenes of unrelenting passion. France's Catherine Breillat, the feminist force behind *Romance* and *Requiem*, continues her head-on mission with *Antony and Jane*, in

which a woman goes a milegion to teach a man to perform sex in a noble, lyrical, a torrid and a garden role—though the most disturbing scene involves a man biting the boy who stumps a lady had to death after feeding a woman.

Tapping a more psychological vein of sexuality, *Time of Menace* a postmodern Jewish character a ground-breaking tragedy. It's a two-guy act in New York City who fall in love with a woman from Toronto. Forget gay marriage. This is a deconstructed threesome, and it produces two kids. As director Susan Kaplan tracks these characters year after year, it's fascinating to watch the progress of their hopes, households, and the true work that men.

In the year of Fahrenheit 9/11, a cinematic, political documentary goes behind the headlines—Oscar Gewinner *Pavlov*, which follows

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Rand Simon, CFP® Manager

Brad Richards, Hockey Player

On achieving financial goals and other net benefits.

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BUZZ LIST

COGITO ERGO FUN

With 77 Mack Trucks, D and G, Russell (450000) will eliminate direct costs. Dennis Hoffman and Lily Berlin, co-owners of a construction services in a semi-rural reconstruction area, say the weakest ramp through being red machinery since

Keywords: child sexual abuse; disclosure; self-blame

CONQUERING COLIN

2 Silver Strokes put the music on an history with *Robbers*, JFK and Nixon. Now he's cast Irish bad boy Caine Farrell as a slumlord in the *Shameless* 1980s-noir epic, *Ring* with Angelina Jolie. As the *Irony*, his actual *Murderers*, Farrell did any of his own stunts, but then broke his ankle and ended on a stretcher after a month.

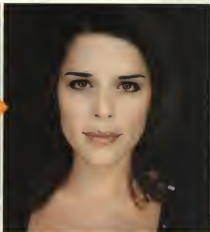
HEY JUDE

Tom Cruise readers more dough, but these days no one's hotter than Jacki Lee—squirling Nicole Watts in *17*. Much ado, reinventing a cop/deny cop in *Alfie*, and zooming through an art deco metropolis in *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow*.



LOOKING DAGGERS

Step Into Hollywood
China is the true home of epic spectacle. After *Hero*, Zhang Yimou offers a more intimate martial arts program with *House of Flying Daggers*. Starring Grace Ng's mercurial Zhang Ziyi, it's a rippling romance and melodrama. **B+**



An actor explores the power of sexuality—'its use and abuse'

Steve Campbell is asked for a rare insight on the big screen considering the Caucasian ethnicity is by no means crucial about stuffing her clothes for the camera. That helps explain all the hype around Campbell's starchy shenanigans, so it's James Toback's *When Hell Boiled* ("These scenes with nude scenes when they're written into scripts for the sole purpose of improving the box office draw," says Campbell, who plays Vivia, an unrepentant former female who turns the tables on her hustler boyfriend and her sultry *Argosia* colleague. "But this film is all about the power of sexuality—both its use and abuse. It's meant to serve the character."

She says she went to nude scenes that were written to suit Robert's sex

to be in this sort of new place."

But working up the courage to bare all has taken time. "It's not easy—I could have done it five years ago," says Campbell, 38, formerly on the TV drama *Party of Five* and star of the Screen Actors' film *Van*. "I'm just more comfortable with myself now." Not helped enough, however, to watch the film with her dad at last week's world premiere at the Toronto film festival—Campbell didn't stick around for the show. (Before a private screening with his brother, actor Christian, a few weeks back, she pined him with alcohol. "It caused a Mike's head Leonardo," she says, "just made things a bit easier.") JOHN HUGHES

JGIM 1997;12:101-105

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FAMILY JEWELS

Two new series prove home is where the art is

IF TELEVISION genres were members of a family, then peppy reality TV would definitely be the baby, with its lighthearted shows, goss and juvenile humor. And, as in the case with infants, a big deal is made over each new nubby fad, from finally swapping to junior tyrocooning. With their dastardly superior acting, reasonable, workplace dramas like *Law and Order*, *ER*, *The West Wing* and this year's new *CSE NY* (starring Gary Sinise) fit into the role of the elder.

They're expected to perform well, and they often rise to the challenge. Neither income, the black sheep of the family, nor genre that used to be loopy and everyone's favourite can no longer be trusted, and doesn't come 'round much anymore. That leaves the in-between offspring: Unflashy one-hour family shows like *Everwood* and *American Dreams*. And like middle children, they're only to get along with, eager to please, and

often overlooked. Yet strong family dramas tend to be more innovative and more representative of real life than any unscripted spectacle or high-octane drama.

HBO has had well-deserved success with the dark family-business dramas *The Sopranos* and *Six Feet Under*. But when it comes to mainstream networks, that's far from the whole family, scores of good shows are prematurely cancelled (*Friends* and *Geeky, My So Called Life*) or languish at the bottom of the ratings (*Overwood*, *Gilmore Girls*). Often these series are unfairly dismissed by viewers and/or critics as teen shows, but the writing, tone and grasp of family dynamics may very well be sophisticated enough for all ages. Of course, for today's supposedly distracted TV snobs, the problem could be that these programs demand a real commitment. In order to follow

their multiple story arcs and fully appreciate the nuances, you need to be in front of the television every week—just in your presence is that *Sunday Family* drama used to be required.

What would jobs they think of the kind of neglect? The days of a family drama hitting No. 1 in the ratings as *The Waltons* did in 1972-73 are a thing of the past. Today's shows can't even reach the heights of a *Little House on the Prairie* (ranked 6th in 1977-78) or an *Archie* (12th in 1979-80). Last year, *Joan of Arcadia* and *The O.C.* were heralded as hits even though they were ranked 67th and 54th respectively. Despite being term control family programs, both shows grabbed a decent audience. The *O.C.* used glossy soap opera series, and *Joan of Arcadia* found success with a throne gimmick that uses the main character carrying out God's whimsical errands while at home and at high school balls. But what really broke these programs out of the teen ghetto was the attention given to parents. No

longer downplaying characters played by no-name actors, they have lives and juicy plot lines, and the camera follows them to work as often as to school with the kids. Two new series

Huffman (left), Longoria, Hatcher and Cross stir up emotion and lustre

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

that stand out this fall—the adult comedy subseries soap *Desperate Housewives* and the semi-political drama *Jack & Bobby*—use similar ploys. The hook to *Desperate Housewives* is that the show is narrated by a stereotypical middle-class, stay-at-home mom who happens to off herself in the opening scene. After picking up the drycleaning and getting away the drivers, Mary Alice Young pulls down a gas from the top shelf of the closet and shoots herself. At her own funeral, in a voice over, Mary Alice introduces her four neighbourhood friends, pointing out the cracks in their facades and dishing on what happens behind their white picket fences.

Catty and satirical in its discussion of suburban marriage, parenthood, friendship and secrecy, *Desperate Housewives* will strategize to resonate emotionally. There's little focus on the kids, and the series presents darker soap opera situations than *Dynasty* or *Melrose Place*. The four attractive female leads, meanwhile, deliver near-perfect performances. Tim VanZandt (Lou Clark) pulls out some heroics in hidden chops as a single mom re-entering the dating scene. Marcia Cross (*Melrose Place*, *Everwood*) is just that ever-as an uber-housewife who's abused her husband and son. Eva Longoria (*The Young and the Restless*) exudes an unhappy wife whose tormented gardeners tends more than the flower bed. And Felicity Huffman (*Sports Night*, *Out of Order*) gives an Emmy-worthy performance, on par with anything being done on *Star Trek: Voyager*, as a business owner turned baby machine whose husband's got her pregnant three times in four years.

Despite the fact that the first episode features a suicide, infidelity, threat of divorce, a fire—and a hideous mid-evil teen moving scene in which Longoria's character goes the yardwork her racist lover didn't get around to—there's nothing melodramatic about the show. The second episode can't come quick enough.

Jack & Bobby could have made it out as an average teen drama. Two different brothers, one popular, one dorky, mixed by a brilliant but overbearing college professor's mother (Christine Lahti—another show home currently built on lies). But the gimmick here is that one of the McCullister brothers is destined to be the U.S. president in 2001, and through flash forwards we see that the high-schooler has turned out to be



Scene from *The Young and the Restless* (top) Long, Lahti and Lerman—*Desperate Housewives* and *Jack & Bobby*

not just an average politician, but a winner, a man they call "The Great Believer". Already no secret for you? Granted, this *Everwood* *Wierd Wing* mix (made by the creators of those two shows) is autopsical in its grand, avuncular gesture. But it also draws on the best of those professions. *Everwood* brought parents' child dying to a new level of discomfort, and *Jack & Bobby* carries on that intensity—the off-kid, naive teen easily point out their wife caregiver's obvious shortcomings. But to balance out the sort of hysteria that some teens overheard *Everwood*, *Jack & Bobby* switches gears, jumping ahead four decades to the end of McCullister's presidency, and to a country that has already elected both a female and a black man to the position of commander-in-chief.

Like Joan of Arcadia, *Jack & Bobby* gives sibling relationships their due. Elder son Jack (Matthew Long) is angry, handsome and popular, a track star and charity buff. Bobby (Lagan Lerman), who's entering Grade 8, is sensitive and awkward—a geeky space enthusiast whose asthma keeps him out of play. By the end of the first episode, it's clear which one grows up to be president, and which's left to be seen as just what role the other brother plays in his making. It's hard to figure out who comes across and control really comes across. Outside shows with insight into family dynamics. The one that goes comes back into view, shows how *Jack & Bobby* and *Desperate Housewives* are destined for a quiet, semi-successful existence. Not that the middle child could ever complain.

SHARON DEBEL



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BAND ON THE RUN

Tired of rock-star excess, Sum 41 has a new CD—and a scary tale about a near-death experience in Africa

"WE'RE A DRUG-FREE BAND NOW," proclaims Deryck Whibley, lead singer of Sum 41. But none of the rest of the guys didn't get the memo. Once informed, guitarist Dave Baksh agreed with the plan as long as the group isn't considering petting a dog. Bassist Jason Carsek McColin agrees with the treatment, but only because he thinks his grandfather might read this article. Drummer Steve Jasin, meanwhile, already had the same idea—sort of. "My new rule for this tour is that I'm only going to go hard when there's a day off. And only because, nothing else. I might slip up every once in a while, but not a lot. It's hard because it's

everywhere when you're on tour and when you're drunk, your defenses go down."

Sonny on their super-luxurious tour bus before a show at the Ritz in Bali, in Channel's Malakala cottage country, these notoriously hard-partying, pop-punk rockers with a penchant for strapping are acting grown up. "For one thing, we've all got girlfriends now," says McCulkin, 24, who connected with someone four years ago. Baksh, 26, married his high school sweetheart in December. Jasin, 24, has recently outed his frothing ways, and Whibley, 24, is rumored to be dating fellow Canadian pop star Avril Lavigne. "I don't really want to talk about that," he says, looking at the floor.

As the band's songwriter, Whibley is the driving force behind the side-tasty reflective and engaged some of the band's third full-length CD, *Chuck* (being released on Oct. 12). This more mature effort from the Ages, Oh, rockers, who needed to emotional steroids with two previous albums of Gen Y-style loud, angry and goofy three-chord hits, purely reflects Whibley's experiences with acoustic guitar

and passion. The songs are still hard, fast and irreverent. And they're filled with typical twentysomething concerns. Whibley starts by working on establishing his independence, he is from parents, high maintenance girlfriends (Dana Hilson is a former flamed) or the outcast recording industry. But other songs tackle broader issues, courtesy of the band's world travels and increasing political awareness. "Back when we were 16 or 17, maybe 7-Eleven ran out of 'C' Plus," says Baksh about those early concerns, "but now we've seen a lot more drugs."

War, for instance. It's pretty hard to go back tooning about Skaggs after you've narrowly escaped gunfire and mortar blasts in an unstable Third World country. Suffering this summer, the band traveled to the Democratic Republic of Congo to film a documentary with War Child Canada, an NGO. "We wanted to do something that was more hands-on than play a show or do a compilation CD," says Whibley, "so we thought, 'Let's go to an actual war zone.'" Baksh breaks in: "That sounds so lucky now, we know." Whibley explains: "But there had been a conflict for a



The mess mission: Jack Bled Whibley, McCulkin and Baksh rock just as hard

year and they were working toward peace, and it sounded fine."

The band had been there for six days, interviewing men who had been child soldiers and women who were raped during the civil war. They did some tourist stuff and came free to face with a gorilla. But when the fighting broke out on the street in front of their hotel, it was clear they had to get out of the country. For one night they had to sleep together in one room, as mortar rounds went off, hitting the hotel. The next day, Chuck McColin, a UN peacekeeper from Canada who was staying at their hotel, arranged for taxis to take all the guests to a UN safehouse. "We had to run out on the street to unarmored taxis that were 100 feet away," says Whibley. "When we got there the door was closed. We were peering in on the door, but the UN guys on the tank with their machine guns couldn't leave us because everything's locked." And, on track Baksh, "as we're waiting for the door to open, we could hear bullets hitting houses and stuff." Finally, concludes Whibley, "the door opens and we drive in." After a night in a safe house, sharing one box of mimosas among nine people, they took a bus back through the war zone, and then boarded a plane for Uganda. Three days later they caught a flight to Britain.

The band named its new CD *Chuck*, after Pichichi, the album's first single. We're all there, was inspired by the experience. "The song is so frantic and fast and then it goes calm and then out of nowhere picks up again," says Whibley. "That's basically what it was like—calm or men of courage could fire and then just release the like 30 minutes. And just when you think it's over, out of nowhere there's bombs and machine guns and it's just crazy."

Worried that all this talk might create the wrong impression, Jasin pipes up, "I don't want to give off the illusion that we're becoming serious band—we're not." Before coming later he's back asking about the positive effect their trip has had. "We're receiving emails from kids who are excited and want to go work with War Child and NGOs, and I think that's a better achievement than some kid telling us they want to start a band—everybody wants a band."

SHANE GEDDIS



CHUCK
Available Oct. 12

BUZZ LIST

BRIAN WILSON

From the man who led the most famous beachside-in-rock '70s folk-rockers to a long-awaited diplo.

SKYAN ADAMS

Released his first time of course, it's his younger, apparently his best, busy taken photos of napoleons.

TEGAN AND SARA

Just a few months ago, the twins were in the

DEVAS

Female all-stars leave no stone unturned this fall. Deva's Twin gets her first greatest hits collection, and Michael performs to tell her a story—sister, all-country seven Lucinda Williams addresses a fine CD, and great Anita Baker returns after a 10-year hiatus, and even Macy Gray gets to work in a comeback boots.

U2

First punked: The Edge keeps the edge of the 2001 Grammy, then goes and wins a dozen of the band's latest CD (due in November). Does this guy need a name suit?

EMINEM

Most of the rap's slim slippy prince stand up... straight. Also, get his of the best. He's been and that's all. And now a new record (due in November), how about another movie role.

LEONARD COHEN

He's still out there. Fans around the world will celebrate his 75th on Sept. 25, and he has a new CD in October. S.D.



Twins who live far apart to make better music together

Tegan (left) and Sara (right) have dropped folk for a brighter sound

When identical twins Tegan and Sara Quin were signed to Neil Young's record label four years ago, the folkie Calgary duo were living together in a basement suite in their mother's house—writing music and fighting. Now the 28-year-old (on Sept. 25) sisters, who are both lesbians, have put some distance between themselves: Tegan lives in Vancouver, and Sara's in Montreal. But that hasn't slowed down the music. They've dropped the folk for more guitars, new wave-ish pop, and sound more focused on their fourth CD. So do you miss the old folk? Tegan is convinced they'll keep getting better. "When we signed our record deal, Elliot Roberts, who's

managed Neil Young and Jam Mitchell, said, 'You're awesome and you're going to write your best music in your 30s.' Okay, so do more years of it—big everything up and then we'll sound great." The separation, acknowledges Tegan, has made them stronger, less self-conscious songwriters, even if it's difficult being apart. "Like it or not, our lives are intertwined," she says. "It's hard not being able to run over to her house." Plus, Tegan has trouble keeping the unengaged Sara on top of their work schedule from so far away. "In my mind, she's my little sister," says the eight-minute older Tegan. "She wants me not to take care of her—but I do." S.D.

**UPCOMING
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SARA QUIN**
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BOOKS



PRIZE PROSE

Munro and other safe bets take on the dark horses

IN SEPTEMBER, buzz in the CanLit world always seems to coalesce around possibilities for the national fiction prize, the Giller and the Governor General's, and—should there be any competition involved—Reynolds Men Bookers Prize. This year there are two Canadian novels on the Booker's so-called long list of 22 (*The Island Women* by John Banville and *Levi's Deceit* by A. B. Yee), though London bookies don't expect either to be on the six-book short list when it's announced on Sept. 23.

Nevertheless, the novels, both published in 2003, lie on the 2004 Canadian short lists. The Governor General's nominees, let alone the eventual winner, have been utterly unremarkable in recent years. In part that's because the slates of the judges are revealed only with the short list, making it

impossible to zero in on the sorts of books that might appeal to them. Giller nominees will be announced on Oct. 7, three weeks before the five authors are scheduled to read from their works at Toronto's International Festival of Authors, as part of the 25th anniversary celebrations at the nation's pre-eminent literary gathering.

Who the five might be is wide open at this point, given the distinguished—and sober-minded—jury panel of biographer Charles Gey and novelist Alanna MacLeod and M.G. Vassan, and a debutary spring

Wright (*Adultery*) and Wayson Choy (*All That Matters*). Munro and Wright are CanLit stars, past winners of both the Giller and the Governor General's awards, anything they publish is generally prize-worthy. Likewise Choy—no other author in Canada matches his peculiar combination of sparse productivity and critical rapture. At 65, Choy now has two novels published, and one book of memoirs, all three beautifully written.

Two spring sleepers, David Reardon's *Natasha* and *Other Stories* and *A Complicated Kindness* by Miriam Toews, may catch the jury's eye, along with full rides from former Giller nominee Michael Ondaatje (*The English Patient*), Greg Hollingshead (*Believe*) and Bill Green (*Reveries*), or such government writers as Susan Swan (*What Cassanova Told Me*), Michael Wexler (*The Big Whisk*) and Catherine Bush (*Clare's Head*).

But the book the judges may have tossed at the longlist is the extraordinary Munro's *Runaway*. At 1,358 pages, Paul Anderson's debut novel is almost a library in miniature, and the story of its creation is itself an epic. Readers won't be surprised to learn that Anderson was a budding philosophy prof, at 18 one who abandoned the academic life in 1989 to find the world. He ended up in Mexico writing short stories, which is where he discovered the precociously brilliant 17th-century Mexican poet and nun Sor (Sister) Juana Inés de la Cruz. Back in Calgary, he spent eight years crafting a 1,000-page novel of her life and times. Anderson was convinced that any publisher would demand cuts, and was stunned to hear Random House of Canada publisher Anne Collins suggest more after he submitted it in 1999.

It took an entire year for the author to come up with the additional pages, and for Random House to launch the fall's biggest publishing gamble. First novels rarely make money, and one that does three or four times the paper of its competitors while costing only about \$5 million (\$3.9 million starting up the track). The publisher has covered some of its costs by mortgaging the hardcover print run to 5,000 copies—way beyond what it's in trade paperback. But the gamble may yet pay off.

Another Canadian book has gone into each year's publication talk in 2004. Munro's *Runaway* could turn out to be the book of the year, and those 5,000 hardcover collections' worth. **HEAR BETHANE**

A Montreal poet and now inspired an epic—what very long—first novel

BUZZ LIST

MYSTERY

Robert McGlo, 26, delivers a first-rate literary whodunit in *The Mysteries*, about a death in small-town Ontario. The ending will leave half his readers cheering and the rest muttering about unsatisfying endings.



MOLYBDAENIUM

■ The fanciest book of the year, *Molvenia* is a post-Darwinist, proto-ecofiction European land where giblets and liver are served for dinner in a waffle cone. Unlike the country, *Molvenia* the book deserves a superstar review.



MEMOIRS

From Peter C. Minerva
Through Shell's Open to
Patrick Watson and Norman
Wardlaw. www.elsevier.com

MOVING TARGETS

Twenty-two years of Margaret Atwood's essays show once again that the Queen of CanLit can turn anything into a delicious morsel.

MUSEUM CALLED CANADA

Charlotte Gray, biographer of the nation, may well rule the gift-book market with this sumptuous tour through Caesar's attic.

MASTER AND COMMANDER

Patrick O'Brian may be dead, but that doesn't mean his popular Royal Navy series is in dry dock. HarperCollins will publish his last, unfinished novel in November. **B**



Harry Potter for adults and Jane Austen for the fantasy crowd

The novelist offers England with a spellbinding difference.

If there's a single book sitting atop the English-language world's reading list, it's Suzanne Collins' entrancing *Juvenile Struggle*. At Mr. World's Public Libraries report waiting lists of hundreds of names, bookshelves are filling out getting their copies online for the Sept. 1 release date, and—given those few who have seen an advance copy—there's been nothing but praise, and these aren't the novelties only reminiscent to a kid. Now, it's time. *Red* is "Harry Potter for grown-ups," Jonathan Strawn and it's more 200 years ago in an English locale than the one found in history books—a blend of romantic poets, a medieval, and modern war with France.

Ruf Diemo, a 45-year-old Cambridge resident and former book editor, has a twist in his biography story. Once there has been real magic in England, and now her life chapters have brought it back. Naturally the government is very interested in what military aid Stränge and Norrell can provide, even as the magic threatens to escape their control. (Asked if they can let by their art, Stränge replies, "I suppose a magician might, but a gentleman never could.") Witty tongue—*Stränge* is saved from Napoleon by being temporarily moved to America—combined with even better Jane Austen-style dialogue will make this the season's bestseller. **B**

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BUZZ LIST

THE ATLANTIC BALLET THEATRE OF CANADA

The Montreal, QC-based troupe brings outdoor choreography to vibrant new work, *Les Petites Femmes*, based on Aristotle's *Antigone*. Jacques S. Gauthier's novel, AOTG artistic director Jean Delorme's choreography and the contemporary ballet, which opens at Montreal's Opéra Théâtre on Nov. 15.

MATT & BEN

Quickly added to the list of Toronto's most popular plays.

BRAD FRASER

Old Man's new play by this celebrated Canadian writer (distinguished Human Frontiers and the True Nature of Love, *Glenn & Folk*), was revised at the 2001 English premiere. The newly revised about old culture was brought together by a double cast in Toronto's Factory Theatre. Oct. 30 to Oct. 31.

DANGEROUS LIAISONS

The 19th-century play by Toronto's artistic director Anne Stoddard-Miller, of *Chickadee* and *Les Petites Femmes* (distinguished Human Frontiers), premiered on Sept. 26 at Wilson's Guelph Concert Hall before October runs in Edmonton and Calgary.

ALISTAIR MACLEOD

Two Canadian plays by the author (distinguished Human Frontiers) for the stage by playwright David Young at Toronto's Toronto Theatre (Nov. 9 to Dec. 15).



Two guys played by two gals, and a script from the skies

Doyle left and Spence work on choreographing their lower bodies

It's a weekly, gender-bending satire and a born MC. *Matt & Ben*, a play based on the notion that Matt Damon and Ben Affleck's Oscar-winning script for *Good Will Hunting* fell from the heavens and into their apartment—and featuring women playing the two veteran-actors-turned critics during its 10-month run off-Broadway (the *New York Times* noted that the production was “absolutely delightful and deliciously painful”) it played Los Angeles in the spring and Chicago late summer, and travels to London this fall. Now, the Canadian producer company members is bringing the comedy to Toronto's Peter Allen Theatre (Oct. 6 to Nov. 10).

Matt & Ben was created and initially performed by New York writers Jimmy Kating and Brenda Wilkins. Toronto's version will feature Hilary Doyle as Damon and Jane Spence as Affleck. They've prepared for the play by screening most of their characters' cues. And they've done some intense research into male behaviour. “Do guys walk around with their heads in their back pockets?” asks Doyle, 37. “I’m working on Matt’s smile,” she adds. “I’d want to become more muscular, but I might need a greater diet.” Spence concurs that it’s all about physicality. “Being a guy,” she says, “is more than just looking young!” **JOHN CORN**

MATT & BEN
Written by
Jimmy Kating
and Brenda
Wilkins
Directed by
David Young
Peter Allen
Theatre,
Toronto
Oct. 6-Nov. 10



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The Many Ages of Arthritis



A truly democratic disease

Arthritis affects Canadians of all ages and backgrounds. Recent medical breakthroughs have added powerful new tools to the arthritis treatment arsenal, allowing most patients to control their condition and get on with their lives. The catch, not all patients have access to these tools.

Arthritis does different things to different people. It may deliver only a glancing blow, allowing persons to carry on with just a few restrictions to their activities, or it may blow in like a hurricane, leaving persons with the task of rebuilding their lives from the ground up. Encompassing more than 100 joint disorders, most of them involving pain, swelling and limitations in movement, arthritis spans no age, socioeconomic group or geographical region.

The statistics abound: more than four million Canadians now have arthritis, with a further two million expected to be diagnosed by the year 2026. The leading cause of physical disability and healthcare usage among Canadians, arthritis is the economy buster by an estimated \$4.4 billion per year. Over the next two decades, the "boomer bulge" will dramatically swell the ranks of people with osteoarthritis (OA), the leading form of arthritis

and the one most dependent on age. "More people will have OA in the next 20 years than in all of history combined," notes Dr. Bill Bensen, a rheumatologist at St. Joseph's Hospital/McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont. "As a society, we need to prepare ourselves for this time."

While a cure for arthritis remains elusive, pharmacological research has yielded a flurry of effective treatments for the condition, ranging from COX-2 inhibitors (COXIBs) for pain relief and reducing inflammation to disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) and biologic agents for improving joint function and slowing down disease progression in forms of inflammatory arthritis. Under current investigation is a brand-new generation of drugs called DMARDs (disease-modifying osteoarthritis drugs), designed to halt the progression of OA.



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New drugs deliver on promise



Dr. Anthony Russell, professor of rheumatology at the University of Alberta. (Photo: Hospital/University of Alberta)

According to Berens, clinical studies over the past two years have put a long-standing controversy about COX-2 safety to rest. "We now know that COX-2s are remarkably gentler than traditional NSAIDs (nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) to the gastrointestinal system," he explains. "The supposition that COX-2s caused ulcers turned out to be completely false!"

The biologic agents, in turn, work like cruise missiles in the biochemical war on arthritis, targeting specific links in the inflammation chain to prevent or delay the irreversible damage caused by inflammatory arthritis. The first biologic

drug to gain approval in Canada, Remicade (infliximab), "showed dramatic results in clinical trials," says Dr. Anthony Russell, a professor of rheumatology at the University of Alberta. "Not only did patients feel so much better, some of them actually showed improvement on their joint X-rays. This was unheard of!" The best news of all: "These striking results have persisted!"

Health Canada has since approved another biologic drug, Enbrel (etanercept), for treating inflammatory arthritis, and a number of others are currently being tested. "Though they're not for every arthritis patient, biologics work extremely well in most patients with more severe inflammatory arthritis, including those who've responded poorly to other drugs," says Dr. Russell, adding that "Remicade appears to take effect more rapidly than the other biologics. It's something we couldn't offer six years ago."

Some of the older drugs, in turn, continue to prove their merit. The antiplatelet Plavix, for instance, "may be all that's needed to control mild to moderate pain caused by osteoarthritis," says Dr. Russell. And while a disease-modifying drug will always be central to the treatment of inflammatory arthritis, "Plavix can play an adjunctive role in a pain reliever."

Good and bad times

With the combined horsepower of these older and newer treatments, many people living with arthritis today — even the most severely affected individuals — can expect to lead full and satisfying lives, but only if they have access to these treatments. If only it were that simple.

"To borrow from Dickens, it's the best of times and the worst of times for arthritis patients," says Berens. "On the one hand, we've got these great treatments. On the other, we lack the resources to offer them to all those in need."

So what is to be done? "We have to update our delivery system for one thing," Dr. Berens explains. "Some parts of the country are still stuck in the 1950s, when medical specialty treat-

ment teams got curtailed and arthritis became an office disease." Effective care for arthritis requires a team-oriented approach, with nurse clinicians, doctors, and self-management educators all working together.

This is precisely the approach being taken by The Arthritis Society Through a network of Arthritis Centres, treatment and research programs have been established in medical schools across the country. These centres provide exemplary patient care, high standards of graduate and undergraduate teaching, as well as excellent opportunities for clinical and basic science research.

The Arthritis Society has also announced Getting a Grip on Arthritis. It is a national program designed to help doctors, nurses, occupational thera-

Cathy Kinsman, 51
New Scotia

Rheumatoid Arthritis

Arthritis entered Cathy Kinsman's world when she was away from her home town of Lunenburg, N.S., for the first and only time in her life. It began in 1972 to complete her training to become a nurse, young Kinsman woke up one morning with swollen knees and knuckle joints. The result: rheumatoid arthritis.

Back in Canada, having married the boy next door, Kinsman set about getting pregnant. "Every time I tried to come off my anti-rheumatoid drugs, I would have a bad day," she says. It took her seven years to conceive and give birth to her son, now 16.

Over the years, Kinsman has had close to 20 operations to remove, replace or fuse joints. When her doctor advised her to give up her nursing career, she could hardly disagree. "Even shelling down a thermometer had become difficult for me," she recalls. Resolving to reinvent herself as "efficient, but still useful," she began volunteering for several organizations, including her local chapter of The Arthritis Society.

Three years ago, Kinsman had the opportunity to participate in a pre-operative trial of the biologic drug Remicade. The results were nothing less than dramatic. "After the second treatment," she says enthusiastically, "I was bouncing out of bed and zipping across the kitchen floor." With assistance from her husband, Glen, Kinsman continues to take Remicade today. "It's expensive, but worth every cent," she states.

Arthritis is among the top three chronic diseases (includes prevalence in each province)

Ira Rosta, 78
Manitoba

Osteoarthritis

For many, there is one word, he says, a retired University of Manitoba professor, did all he could to avoid knee-replacement surgery. Rehabilitation, complementary, physiotherapy, steam-in-a-bath pain medication—the Winnipeg resident tried every strategy in the book before putting one of his osteoarthritic knees under the surgeon's knife three years ago, and the other a year later.

Rosta admits the post-operative healing process took him a long time. "I had a lot more expected to be able to get up from the operating bed and walk around," he recalls with a chuckle. In fact, "I had to do stretching and bending exercises every day for months on end before I became truly mobile again." Today, though, he hasn't a hint of regret that he underwent the procedures. "Both knees are holding up well," he says. "I can walk around and bend my knees without pain." Rosta recommends knee-replacement surgery to osteoarthritic patients who've given other strategies a fair shake but found them wanting. "Just be sure to plan for a healing period," he advises.

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physiotherapist and other healthcare professionals, as well as people with arthritis, improve their skills and knowledge to improve their disease. The program emphasizes prevention, early detection, comprehensive care, self-management and timely referrals to specialized care.

But this is not enough. Financial

constraints continue to contribute to the treatment gap. "If every Canadian arthritis patient made a tax-deductible donation of \$50 to The Arthritis Society, we would see a wholesale of change," he says. At all levels, from the institutional to the personal, "we've got to give arthritis research and education our full support."

Patient, help thyself

Even while waiting for this "whirlwind of change," people with arthritis can do a lot to improve the quality of their lives. "Self-management is a big part of arthritis," says Dr. Arthur Bookman, chair of The Arthritis Society's medical advisory committee and senior rheumatologist at Toronto Western Hospital. "If you have arthritis, you are almost on having only a certain amount of energy each day," he says. By planning your day to allow for rest periods and by attending to the quality of your nighttime sleep, you'll have less fatigue and pain to contend with."

By the same token, he adds, "you'll realize more mobility if you do exercises to strengthen the muscles around diseased joints and keep your weight down." Suitable activities include swimming, walking, low-impact calisthenics and light weightlifting. "Depression also responds to physical activity," he notes. "Today's drugs can do wonderful things, but there's also real value in having a color-charged attitude. It is an attitude in your movement," he says. By fulfilling these responsibilities, "you'll have the best shot at controlling your disease."

The Arthritis Society meanwhile, can help patients understand their



Dr. Arthur Bookman, Chair of The Arthritis Society's medical advisory committee and senior rheumatologist, Toronto Western Hospital

rights and responsibilities as outlined in the Arthritis Bill of Rights, developed in 2001 with input from about 20 professional associations. Included in the Bill's eight rights are the right to timely and accurate diagnosis, the right to access proven treatments and the right to participate fully in society. The fifth right is responsibility says Dr. Bookman. "As an individual with arthritis, you're responsible for becoming knowledgeable about the disease and taking an active role in your treatment," he says. By fulfilling these responsibilities, "you'll have the best shot at controlling your disease."

Is this pain arthritis?

If you answer YES to any of the following questions, speak with your health-care provider.

- Have you experienced pain in your joints for six weeks or more?
- Do you feel stiff or have trouble moving your joints when you get up?
- Do you have swelling in any of your joints?
- Is joint pain interfering with your work or daily activities?

Heather Monus, 27 Saskatchewan Fibromyalgia

Arthritis caught up with Heather Monus when she was just 20 years old. Diagnosed with fibromyalgia complicated by rheumatoid arthritis, "my symptoms just kind of blurred together," she recalls. For years, the Regina-based mediator found it hard to separate her two diagnoses. "Sometimes wondered if they were truly separate," she reflects. "All I knew is that I got tired easily and felt varying degrees of pain in my shoulders, wrists, ankles and neck." A later diagnosis indicated she had fibromyalgia only, and it went into remission when she was pregnant. But, with her son now four months old, her symptoms are returning.

Determined to gain some control over her destiny, Monus enrolled in the arthritis self-management program (ASMP) offered by The Arthritis Society, eventually obtaining certification as an ASMP facilitator. Though not opposed to drugs—"COX-2 inhibitors keep the pain at a dull roar"—she says she benefits at least as much from other strategies such as using heat or cold compresses, walking to relieve stiffness, and using ergonomic equipment at work. "Hey, it could be a lot worse!" she says matter-of-factly. "It will be interesting to see what the next 60 years have in store for me."

Arthritis affects twice as many women as men
(includes frequency of types of arthritis)

Scott Gurr, 28
Alberta

Juvenile Arthritis

Scott Gurr's medical history reads like that of a much older person: diagnosed with juvenile arthritis at 11, 13 operations, two fused ankles and, most recently, shoulder replacement surgery. "It's been about a surgery a year since high school," says Gurr, who lives with his mother in Lethbridge, Alta.

Although he hopes to complete his post-secondary education, Gurr says the nonstop surgeries and the numerous drugs he takes to slow the progression of his disease have made it hard for him to plan for the future. In the meantime, he helps his mother run her construction-maintenance business. "I do some chipping, coating and packaging," he says. "Whenever I'm not working, I'm sitting or lying with his buddies where he looks well enough. I mean, in living his life to the best of his abilities, Gurr credits his family and friends for his cautious optimism about life. His advice to other people living with severe arthritis: "Don't put it around—find ways to do what you love to do."

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A COLLECTOR'S COLLECTOR

We're all a little richer thanks to Harry Malcolmson's unique talent

I HAD THE PRIVILEGE recently of sitting down with Harry Malcolmson and hearing his life story. Malcolmson is probably best known as a significant donor to the Art Gallery of Ontario. He and his wife, Ann, have donated some 60 works to the Toronto institution over the last 25 years, including 13 in 2001 alone. The crown jewel is a work in the photo-based art style by German artist Andreas Gursky, which both the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa and the Metropolitan Museum in New York City had wanted. What is

it, I wondered, that makes Malcolmson so unique a collector?

He has what another collector, Alan Schwartz, describes as "visual literacy." But aside from art history classes in university, Malcolmson has no formal training in the arts. He graduated from the University of Toronto in 1966, and he and his class friend Bill Rosenfeld worked together as law partners in a firm specializing in corporate and securities law. He left the firm when he was appointed deputy director of the Ontario Securities Commission, and money man-

agers have remained a life-long area of expertise. From the 1990s to 2003, Malcolmson embarked on a career as an international financial consultant. In 1994, for instance, he successfully mediated a confrontation between the World Bank and the government of Egypt. The bank had terminated financial aid in response to Egypt's refusal to implement its version of a proposed securities law. In addition to his work for the World Bank, Malcolmson has accepted assignments from the United Nations, other international organizations and governments of nations with emerging markets. He was recently asked to help revive financial markets in Iraq.

Then there's Malcolmson the art critic. In 1965, the *Telegraph*, a now-defunct Toronto newspaper, was looking for a new reviewer. Art dealer Dorothy Gensert, whose gallery Malcolmson often visited, suggested him. After submitting some sample columns, he was hired. "There was no real justification whatever for me to write public

criticism," Malcolmson recalls. "Not only can I not paint or draw, I have no interest in personal artistic creativity." (That is probably an advantage in that many critics are frustrated artists.) But Rosenfeld says his friend is being modest. "Harry was always a conceptual man," he says, "sharply rational, with drive and intellect."

In 1966, Malcolmson, by then working for the *Toronto Star*, was covering the Venice Biennale, one of the world's most important contemporary art fairs. That year students were rioting in Paris and elsewhere,



In Venice, they clashed with the army in St. Mark's Square, disrupting the Biennale's opening. When Malcolmson got back to his hotel room, urgent cables and phone calls from his editor—shocked to have a *Star* man on the spot—were waiting. Uncertain how to handle breaking news, Malcolmson went to Harry's Bar, Venice's famous watering hole. He made friends with a correspondent for a London paper, who helped Malcolmson understand the political context of the riot. The piece he then sent to the *Star* appeared in front-page news under banner headlines:

The reporter was Maria Amaya, famous for popularizing the phrase "pop art." In a coincidence that resulted in a surprising reunion, Amaya turned up in the early '70s in Toronto as chief curator at the AGO, a post he held for several years.

It seems to me the common thread throughout all of Malcolmson's endeavours is his keen intelligence and acute skills of observation. For him, the aesthetic process and the intellectual process form a system of coherent thought. When praising Malcolmson's talents as a collector, Matthew Teitelbaum, director of the AGO, could be describing the man in general. "Harry," he says, "sees the process of collecting as a new way of connecting with the world, a way of gathering information and exposing himself to fresh experiences."

Malcolmson's hobby as a collector was first evident in 1963 when he bought an Andy Warhol silkscreen of Elizabeth Taylor. "For this work, now worth thousands, I paid \$10," he says. "More accurately, since the dealer granted me a 10 per-cent discount, my net cost was \$9."

For many years, Malcolmson's main area of interest as a collector was contemporary Canadian and international painting. But in the early 1990s, he did something quite surprising—he

decided to switch his focus to a different type of visual art. He began collecting historic and vintage photography from 1850 to 1865. "Such a shift is relatively rare in collectors," Teitelbaum says, "and is absolutely rare in Canadian collecting circles."

Still, as Ken Thomson—who knows a thing or two about being a collector—describes it, "Collecting begins with passion, all else follows." For Malcolmson, what followed was a brilliant journey. **P**

Jim Paupst is a Toronto physician currently working on a fourth issue, *Depicting the Annual of Bliss*. To contact: overgo@rogers.com



AIMING HIGH

Canadian athletes open the 146-nation Paralympic Games this week in Athens vying for a top-five finish

IT'S A FAMILIAR REFRAIN. For the second time this summer, Canada is sending a team to Athens that's smaller and is expected to win fewer medals. But on the eve of the Paralympic Games, here's the happy difference: With 144 athletes, the Canadian 2004 team is reduced in size from 2000 not because of restrictive and contentious qualifying standards, but because one of the team sports has been dropped from the eight-day event. Canadian team leaders say they still expect to finish in the top five among the 146 nations that will begin competing in Athens on Sept. 17. Chief de mission Louis Barbeau says the established standard—the U.S., Britain, Australia, Canada and Spain—will see their medal counts fall because other countries are getting stronger, most notably China, as it

injured for most of last season. She is undaunted. "I love racing," she says, "especially when I know there's a big battle ahead."

Haley, who lost a leg to childhood cancer, holds world records in the 50-, 100- and 200-m butterfly events in his class. Hest, named Commonwealth male athlete of the year with a disability in 2003, will try to become Canada's version of American Olympic Michael Phelps, who won eight medals in the Athens pool. Hest, who was born with club feet, is trained in seven events in Athens. "The races will be spread out over a longer period of time at the Games," Hest says. "So I'll be very prepared for each race." Canadian Paralympians have struggled to keep up after budget cuts had reduced the opportunities to train and compete. Off-

Paralympic Olympic gold (far left) (clockwise) Canadian Peaches heading back to Greece. Among the top contenders are veterans such as Heather O'Neil, Denise and Wilhelms.

grapevine to host both the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2008. "The level of competition at these events," says Barbeau, "keeps getting better and better."

Thanks to Chantal Petitfleur, Canada will head into the opening ceremonies this week on a roll. In a demonstration event during the Olympics, the Mastermind took an early lead and held on to win the women's 400-m wheel chair gold medal in a record time of 33.66 seconds. In Athens again, the three-time Paralympian will race in the 100, 200, 400, 800 and 1,500-m events, and, because of her experience, she's counted on to lead the team. She has helped her veteran teammates include fellow wheelchair racer Jeff Adams of Toronto, sprinter Belle Corneil of Calgary, rifle shooter Christine Trifirova and swimmer Elisabeth Walker of St. Catharines, Ont., Andrew Haley of Montreal, N.B., and Benoit Hest of St-Hubert, Que. Walker, who because of a condition called dyspraxia was born with short arms, has been trying to regain her world record from after being

injured for most of last season. She is undaunted. "I love racing," she says, "especially when I know there's a big battle ahead."

injured for most of last season. She is undaunted. "I love racing," she says, "especially when I know there's a big battle ahead."



TOMORROW, TOMORROW...

For Little Orphan Paul, there's always a better day ahead. Bet on it.

THE CRUELLEST THING to do to Paul Martin, as he meets with the premiers to talk about health care, would be to act as though his word had any meaning at all. Fortunately for Martin, few Canadians are inclined to try.

What Martin promised before the June 28 election was that he would "fix" health care—with a stopgap measure that would have all the premiers back in a year or two for more money, but "for a generation."

And where would he find that fix? At a meeting with the premiers "this summer—not just for lunch or dinner or even a weekend, but for as long as it takes."

[I'm pretty sure he didn't miss a speech. He made this promise in a Whimpy speech on March 26 ("I've asked to meet with the premiers this summer—not just for lunch or dinner or even a weekend, but for as long as it takes"). He made it again in a Toronto speech on April 16 ("not just for lunch or dinner or over a weekend, but for as long as it takes"). And again when he released his health care plan on May 25 ("PA for a Generation").]

And again when he launched the Liberal campaign Red Book on June 5 ("We are confident that the meetings will agree on the reforms that will fix Medicare for a generation.") And in a Liberal party news release on the day before the election ("He will meet with Prime Minister this summer for as long as it takes to find a health care fix for a generation").

That was then. On Sept. 15, Martin will meet the premiers to discuss health care. Nobody's talking about a fix for a generation anymore. Once again, Liberal told me Martin is hoping to show "some progress."

Some progress would be good. Some progress is always good. Some progress is all anybody could ask for when Jean Chrétien met the premiers in 2004 and offered about \$34.8 billion over five years to repair for vague promises of modest reform.

But Martin made a great show of dismissing lovely evils who think "some



progress" is enough. In the same Toronto speech where he promised to fix health care for a generation, he said what's needed is "transformative change." What's that? To me, it means a fundamental shift in approach and direction; it is not stopgap measures imposed unceremoniously. We're finished with the year-to-year scramble for short-term solutions. "Geez. At least we know how we'll measure whether he's kept his word. If, say, new statistics, governments are still scrambling for short-term solutions, it'll be hard to claim anything's been fixed for a generation."

How? How is it even picky to name the words of the Prime Minister of Canada as though they should be exposed to mean anything. Tax on a way, the election was all about the value, dignity, of candidates' words.

In the campaign's first week, Ontario's premier, Dalton McGuinty, introduced his increase even though he'd promised it with

ing he'd do no such thing without holding a referendum to ask voters for permission. McGuinty's tax flip-flop made some voters wonder whether we could believe anything anyone in politics ever says. Martin's reply to such questions was that his word is worth more than most. "I have built my career in public life on doing what I said I would do," he said on June 5. And, a few minutes later, "Fundamentally, you know, I have always done what I said we would do."

All of this is the long way around to explaining why we'll have another federal election sooner, rather than later. Probably in 2005. And it will come, not because opposition parties force it, but because Paul Martin wants it.

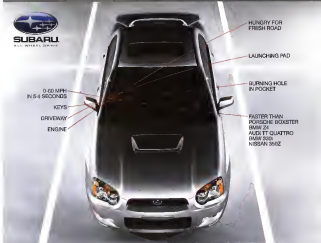
It's hard to govern. You have to make do with stopgap measures and "some progress." Cost increases. Commissions of inquiry report. Trusty Canadians won't open to cover.

But tomorrow. The view is so much clearer from the other side of the road. Transformative change is always at hand. Problems will go away—for a generation. History will be made! Everything will be fixed! Tomorrow.

Paul Martin is Little Orphan Annie. In his mind, he's just a spunky kid who can beat any obstacle. When he rises from the current table he'll be sure he's fixed health care for a generation. And he needn't worry about the rainy day, a year or so hence, when the premiers start to grip again. Before that day comes he'll be on the trail again, promising more transformative change to fix more problems for a generation. There's nothing dangerous about it, just unlikelihood outside-eyed-it's almost blink-eyed.

He only looks like a Daffy Duck. But before too many duckies come home to roost, he'll be back out on the trail, singing his song. The sun will deliver our Tomorrow. Be your bottom dollar.

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